

West Germany signs huge piped gas deal with Russia

From Peter Norman in Essen and Roger Boyes in London

The controversial project to supply Western Europe with 40,000 cubic metres of Siberian natural gas a year for a quarter of a century became a reality yesterday.

After a final round of tough negotiations, representatives of the two leading participants, Ruhrgas AG of Essen, and the Soviet foreign trade organization Soyuzgasexport, reached agreement on the last outstanding problem—the price to be paid by the Germans for the Russian gas.

The contract provides for the direct delivery of 10,500 cubic metres of Soviet gas each year to West Germany.

In common with past agreements of this type, the exact price was not disclosed. Herr Klaus Liesen, the chief executive of Ruhrgas, said, however, that it was linked to the level of alternative sources of heat in West Germany. Ruhrgas has conceded an undisclosed floor price to protect the Soviet Union's investment in the pipeline and the agreement also includes a renegotiation clause.

Herr Liesen indicated that Ruhrgas had agreed to a price of less than the £2.90 per million British thermal units which Norway has demanded for gas from its St. Fjord field.

West European governments are watching the price issue closely because a high price would encourage the efforts of oil companies and gas exporting countries to push natural gas prices up to the same level, in energy terms as oil.

West European governments are trying to keep natural gas prices as low as possible, and they have so far rejected arguments that they should be linked to oil prices.

The pipeline deal went ahead despite a last-ditch attempt by the United States to head it off. The project has gained substantial political importance in both Moscow and Washington and, significantly, the signing of the contract in Essen, came only two days before President Ronald Reagan's arrival in Bonn for talks with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

Moscow has viewed the huge gas-for-pipes deal as an affirmation that the connection between the Soviet Union and Western Europe can continue without serious interruption at a time of frosty relations between Moscow and Washington.

Herr Liesen of Ruhrgas predicted that the agreement would lead to a new era of co-operation between Russia and Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland would follow the West German deal.

For the first time West Berlin has been included in a gas deal between Western Europe and Russia. It will obtain 700 million cubic metres of gas a year.

To bring the gas to Western Europe, a brand new pipeline costing the equivalent of £25,000 million will be built from the Urengoy gas field in western Siberia over 2,340 miles to the West German-Czechoslovak border. Much of



Freedom: Miss Pamela Collison is escorted to a car by police, after her acquittal.

Life sentence for surgeon who 'cruelly poisoned' his wife

From Ronald Kershaw, Middlesbrough

Paul Vickers, the surgeon accused of slowly poisoning his wife, was found guilty of her murder and sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday.

His former mistress, Miss Pamela Collison, jointly charged with him, was acquitted of murder on a majority verdict.

The deal is the fourth and by far the most ambitious to be agreed between the Soviet Union and Western Europe.

For Washington the gas deal represents a disturbing readiness on the part of the Europeans, especially the West Germans, to increase energy dependence on the Soviet Union.

Mr Myer Rashish, the United States Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, last week completed a tour of the European countries specifically designed to present alternative proposals.

As a result of the deal, West Germany could become as much as 30 per cent dependent on the Soviet Union for its gas supplies—up from the present 17 per cent. But the West Germans have maintained that the share of gas in their total energy picture is relatively small.

Bonn has also consistently asserted that it is better to accept slightly higher dependency on Soviet gas than on Libyan oil, which forms a big proportion of United States imports.

The United States hard-line position on the deal has been weakening over the past few months, and the United States Commerce Department has allowed two United States companies to sell the European equipment for the deal.

Herr Liesen, insisted, that Ruhrgas could find alternative supplies even in the event of a total cutoff of Soviet gas. He pointed out that when the pipeline is finished at the end of the 1980s, Soviet natural gas will account for only 6 per cent of the total German energy supply, compared with 3 per cent at present.

Though yesterday's signing ceremony was deliberately held before the start of President Brezhnev's visit and away from the German capital, both sides had been under pressure to settle in order to create a favourable climate for next week's talks.

Western Europe has not been totally impervious to American pressure and various schemes are now being mooted to store natural gas in large quantities and thus minimize the impact should the Soviet Union threaten to turn off the taps.

Leading article, page 7

Paisley's action day faces new opposition

From Tim Jones, Belfast

As more hard line "loyalists" continued to turn against him, it seemed unlikely last night that the Rev Ian Paisley would succeed wholly in his plan to create civil disruption in Northern Ireland on Monday in protest against the security situation.

After a day in which his plan was condemned and criticized by the churches and both sides of industry, shop stewards representing thousands of workers at the Harland and Wolff shipyard in the heartland of Protestant east Belfast recommended the men to work normally.

The decision represented a severe setback for Mr Paisley who cannot hope to claim complete success without wholehearted working-class backing.

Mr Harry Murray, leader of the ship stewards, said that Mr Paisley had "led too many people too often up the wrong path. He has done nothing for this country".

The Protestant paramilitary organization had already rejected his appeal to join in the strike.

Mr Paisley made light of the setbacks and diverted his questioners at a press conference with the revelation of a plot by British intelligence forces to eliminate him.

He also claimed that civil servants in Northern Ireland had been warned that their chances of promotion would be thwarted if they took part in the day of action.

In Belfast Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionists, said his party would be continuing its protest on Monday to a diminished meeting at the City Hall.

He said: "We are not supporting any illegal action or strikes which would only inflict further hardship."

The Irish Council of Churches called on the Government to increase security, but said that while the cause for the day of action was understandable, it was a step in the wrong direction.

The CBI and the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce, in a message to employers and workers, said: "If you care about your job stay at work on Monday. To stop work on Monday, or to close, could mean the prospect of permanent losses of jobs."

Mr Robin Stewart, QC, appearing for Miss Collison, said that ever since her last 16 months she had been under the most enormous strain, facing a charge of very great gravity, of which the jury had now acquitted her.

Mr Stewart submitted that Miss Collison was "the unwitting victim of a sinister purpose of which she did not know".

He went on: "That being so, we invite your Lordship to say that it changes 'put of all' the dimension of the gravity of what was said against her."

Mr Stewart said that over the past few weeks Miss Collison had faced many allegations against her.

Background to the trial, page 2

Czech exiles in TV dispute

By Richard Ford

A series of damaging allegations against a television documentary about the film, which they helped to make, allege that the Czechoslovakian government is being investigated by the recently-formed Broadcasting Complaints Commission.

The complaints, by Mr Jan Kavan and Mr Ivan Kyncl, about the film, which they helped to make, allege that there was an inaccuracy in it which could endanger dissidents facing trial.

Thames Television denies the allegations, and several others made by the two Czechs, who live in London, against the TV Eye programme entitled "The Last Round Up". It was broadcast on June 25 and had been in the making since May.

It was produced by Jon Blair with Julian Maynor as reporter and was made with the assistance of Mr Kavan and Mr Kyncl. On seeing the broadcast Mr Kavan was upset by what he saw. "I feel resentful about it. It is a very complex and sensitive situation that we are in," he said.

Thames, which regards the matter as very serious, has sent a strongly-worded rebuttal of more than 20 pages, to the commission.

The allegations, against us have been refuted in line-by-line detail in a statement submitted to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission which is meeting to consider them.

We have no further comment to make at this stage."

The complaints which the commission is considering were made after the programme was broadcast. It depicted a new wave of repression and discussed whether opposition within Czechoslovakia would survive the next big show trial.

In the course of making the film, Mr Maynor visited the country secretly, posing as a tourist. The documentary outlined the events that led to the arrest on the Czech border on April 27 of two people from France, who were attempting to smuggle a duplicator and hundreds of books and magazines hidden in secret compartments of a van.

Mr Maynor said in the programme that the couple left Paris and headed east. He added: "I can carry with me the names and addresses of people inside Czechoslovakia."

It is this statement that is at the heart of the dispute. Mr Kavan says no names and addresses were carried. Thames insists the statement was accurate.

After the border incident a wave of arrests of dissidents began within days. Later the couple, Mr Giles Thonon, a lawyer aged 29, and Mrs Francis Adis, aged 24, were released by the Czech authorities.

Eighteen days later, on May 15, the Prague Home Service, in a broadcast about the arrests, said: "It can cause no surprise that the security authorities should have made use of the list they discovered containing names of Czechoslovak citizens who were to receive from the agents directives for subversive activity."

The Prime Minister welcomed the rejection of Mr Paisley's day of action.

Civil war denied, page 2

Continued on back page, col 1

Send food appeal from Poles

Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity, the free trade union, appealed to the "free people of the entire world" to give food to Poland to avert "dangerous social tensions and spontaneous outbreaks of popular anger" this winter.

Mr Walesa said that the Polish Foreign Minister, when he met Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary.

Report, page 8

Bonn prepares for Brezhnev

Nine different protest rallies are planned for Bonn tomorrow night. The West German Government is drafting in thousands of extra police.

Measures to deal with the massive crowd, engaged by Washington's launching a massive propaganda campaign against President Reagan's arms control offer.

Page 4

That game is withdrawn

Waddingtons is to stop production of the game "Bombersell", after condemnation by the Prince of Wales and Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary. The company will take back the game from stockists.

Page 3

Child death couple jailed

A couple who battered a child, aged 19 months, and then left him for 16 hours until he died in a freezing room, were jailed for five years at Norwich. The death occurred a day after doctors and welfare workers decided not to remove him from their care.

Page 2

Cervical test

Screening for cancer of the cervix will be officially encouraged for women over 35, should be provided for women of 22 and over if they are sexually active, a report recommends.

Page 3

Labour loss

Mr Stanley Cohen, Labour MP for Leeds, South-East, since 1970, announced he was leaving the party but did not say if he was joining the Social Democrats.

Page 2

No News at Ten

ITN's News at Ten was taken off the air last night when members of the technicians' union, the ACTT, went on strike half-an-hour before the programme was due to be transmitted. The dispute concerned re-grading of the use of videotape recording machines.

Page 3

Chunnel gloom

Hopes of a firm decision on the Channel tunnel in the life of this Parliament are beginning to fade. Only two schemes are still in the race.

Page 3

Indecent vest

A see-through running vest, proving popular with women athletes and ordered for international use next season has been declared indecent by the sports authorities.

Page 2

BL to axe 4,100 jobs and sell tractor firm

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

BL yesterday announced plans to axe 4,100 jobs in the reorganization of its commercial vehicle sector and to sell its agricultural tractor business to a small private company.

Workers at the national union officials rejected the redundancy and reorganization plan and threatened industrial action.

Mr Ken Gill, general secretary of the white-collar engineering union, TASS, said the plan was "a preliminary move to destroy what is left of the industry."

Neither BL nor Marshall, Sons and Company, which is buying the tractor business, would disclose the sale price, but it is likely to be about £15m. As a result of the sale, all 850 tractor jobs at Bathgate, Leith, will be lost in a total of 1,365 to be shed there. BL's Guy plant at Wolverhampton will also be closed with the loss of 740 jobs and one of the two Albion gearbox works cut at Glasgow, with the loss of 140 jobs.

The axe will fall heaviest at Leyland, Lancashire, headquarters of Leyland Vehicles, where almost 1,900 workers will lose their jobs. Workers there pledged themselves to fight the cuts, which they believe are a preliminary to living off the truck and bus operations.

The BL job pruning coincided with announcements of other cutbacks in the engineering and textiles industries.

At the Perkins Diesel Engine plant at Peterborough, 2,000 workers were laid off and 300 left the company under a voluntary redundancy scheme. At Paisley, near Glasgow, J and P Coats, the thread-makers, part of the Coats, Paton group, said that it would reduce its labour force by 1,000 over the next two or three years and close one of its two factories in the town.

It will give a £4m capital injection in the remaining factory. The BL job cuts are due to

£20m drugs case three are cleared

Howard Marks, the Oxford graduate who claimed he worked for MI6 against the Provisional IRA and against South American terrorists for Mexican cash, was yesterday cleared at the Central Criminal Court of involvement in a £20m cannabis smuggling ring. But he was convicted of two charges involving false passports.

Morgan Stewart Pringle, an American yachtman, aged 41, was acquitted of involvement with the cannabis smuggling ring and so was Hedley Barr, Bedfordshire.

Mr Marks, aged 36, of Hants Crescent, London, was accused during the eight-week trial of being the British mainstay of an organization which smuggled 15 tons of cannabis in 1979 from Colombia to Britain across the Atlantic on a tug.

He was acquitted of all three charges of possessing cannabis. The cannabis was landed in the west of Scotland under the plan code-named Eagle by the smugglers. Mr Pringle was alleged to have organized the landing and storage of the drug while Mr Morgan was alleged to have counted the profits.

Report, page 2

Storm ahead for Howe on national insurance rises

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is expected to face a political storm next month when he announces bigger than usual increases in National Insurance contributions to offset the rising cost of unemployment.

The increases are necessary to meet the huge deficit, thought to be close to £200m, in the National Insurance Fund which meets the bill for the payment of unemployment and other benefits and are bound to be attacked by the Government's opponents as a backdoor method of raising taxation.

The Government's Attorney, Mr Edward Johnston, estimated in July that the deficit this year would be £919m although his report, to be published shortly, is expected to put the final figure at slightly less than that.

One of the options being considered by the Treasury in the rising of the upper threshold on which the contribution is levied.

The lower limit is always set at the level of the single person's pension and the higher limit must be between 64 times

and 71 times the lower limit. If the lower limit is as expected, set at about £30 a week the maximum upper limit would be £225 a week.

If the Chancellor decided to raise the upper limit, thus making his increases bear more heavily on the higher paid, legislation would be required.

Sir Geoffrey is expected next month to announce a rise of between half a percentage point and a full percentage point in the National Insurance rates to be paid from next April. The increase from 6.75 per cent to 7.75 per cent in the rate for contracted-out employees, announced last November raised £247m; as earnings have gone up, a one-per-cent increase this time would raise just over £1,000m.

A full percentage point increase in the employee contribution rate would mean an extra £130 a week in deductions.

The issue will be one of many exercising the Cabinet next Thursday when it discusses the progress of the attempts being made by Sir Geoffrey and Mr Lord Butler, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, to achieve reductions of some £3,500m in the public expenditure plans of their spending colleagues.

WATCHING THE GRASS GROW A VITAL STAGE IN THE CREATION OF JACK DANIEL'S

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And ever since Jack Daniel first built his distillery in Lynchburg, Tennessee over a century ago, we've been making whiskey the same careful and unhurried way.

We use iron-free water from a limestone spring that runs all the year round at exactly 56°.

It's the one reason Jack built his distillery here in Lynchburg.

We also take care in choosing the finest quality grains. But it's our own special charcoal mellowing process that makes all the difference. And takes all the time.

You see, every drop of Jack Daniels' whiskey takes its own time to filter slowly through nine feet of finely packed, sugar maple charcoal.

It's this stage that takes out all the roughness and gives Jack Daniels' its smooth, unique taste. Finally, every drop is matured in charred oak barrels for years until it has reached perfection. It's a slow process, and only our experienced tasters know when it's finally ready.

So if you're ever in Lynchburg, drop by if you have the time. We certainly have.

JACK DANIEL'S
Tennessee Whiskey

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Masterful Karpov retains chess title

By Harry Golombek

Viktor Korchin resigned the title of world chess champion yesterday without a fight, leaving the title to the Russian grandmaster, Anatoly Karpov.

The decisive game was probably the best of the match and an excellent illustration of one of Karpov's chief virtues as a player: a power of seeing the initiative and increasing it by move until the pressure is too great for his opponent to bear.

The win was all the more creditable in that the opening, a Ruy Lopez, in which Karpov used the open defence, was a specialty of the challenger. In fact, the relevant section in the Encyclopaedia of the Openings, a modern standard work, was written by Korchin.

Even so, Karpov was able to surprise him with a new move that made the variation Korchin employed almost unplayable. It was a tactical move that, by weakening Korchin's Queenside position, also affected his position in the centre. There was a flicker of resistance on the challenger's part when he tried a counter-attack six moves later. But it was soon extinguished and the remainder of the game was a copy-book

example on Karpov's part of how to take advantage of the greater command of space.

Karpov's match victory gained him a prize of 500,000 Swiss francs (about £144,000) while Korchin had to be content with 300,000 Swiss francs. But the contingent rewards of retaining the title are more considerable.

□ Moscow: Karpov sent a telegram-reporting "mission accomplished" to President Brezhnev of the Soviet Union yesterday.

"I and all the members of the Soviet delegation have felt your daily support, the concern and interest of our dear country," he wrote. —A.P.

Game by game, page 4

Leading article, page 7

Russians launch campaign against US arms move

From Michael Emyon, Moscow, Nov 20

The Soviet Union, angered by the timing and content of President Reagan's speech on arms control, has launched a massive propaganda campaign against proposals which Moscow has called unacceptable, unrealistic and nothing more than a propaganda gambble.

Commentaries in Soviet newspapers today said the American olive branch "showed the Reagan Administration's real aim was the achieving of military superiority over the Soviet Union. His proposals were intended to blunt the vigilance of those fighting for disarmament."

Soviet newspaper *Rossiya* said the "obviously unacceptable" proposals were a smokescreen to cover NATO's rearmament programme. "Reagan's propaganda gambles has nothing in common with the genuine striving for disarmament and runs counter to the aspirations of all the peace-loving peoples."

The Russians are angry that the President's speech cuts the ground from under President Brezhnev's attempt to convince Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, that the United States is not interested in serious arms talks.

Tass today quoted criticisms from around the world of the Reagan speech in an attempt to dispel any enthusiasm for the "zero option", a proposal advocated by Herr Schmidt but which the Russians believe would leave them in a weakened position.

The commentators repeated Soviet arguments that the American proposals left out two essential ingredients of any agenda at Geneva: the British and French nuclear forces, which the Russians want included in the NATO balance, and what Moscow calls American "forward-based systems" and other NATO nuclear weapons.

On Mr Reagan's offer to begin renamed strategic arms limitation (SALT) talks, a Tass commentary today called it a "demagogic statement" and said it was simply a way of persuading America's allies in NATO that they should go ahead with the deployment of new missiles in Europe.

The campaigners in Britain and West Germany were quoted as saying the Americans were trying to blame the Russians for the intensification of the arms race. On the eve of the Geneva talks and weaken the anti-war movement in Europe.

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Shuttle experiment: This image, taken on November 14 at an altitude of 139 nautical miles, shows the northern Peloponnese in Greece, and is among the first processed data acquired by the American Jet Propulsion Laboratory's shuttle imaging radar—an experiment carried by the space shuttle Columbia. The Corinth Isthmus is visible at upper centre, the black area on the right is the Aegean Sea, and left is the Gulf of Corinth.

Walesa plea for aid to Poland

By Roger Boyes

Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity, the Polish free trade union, yesterday issued an urgent appeal to the world to supply emergency food aid to Poland to stave off the prospect of a dangerous social tensions and spontaneous outbursts of popular anger during the coming winter months.

A similar message delivered in less dramatic tones to Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, by Mr Josef Cyrtek, the Polish Foreign Minister, in talks in London yesterday. The two ministers discussed, according to Whitehall sources, the implications of the crisis and the role of the European Community in providing economic assistance to Poland. Mr Cyrtek appears to have timed his visit ahead of the European summit next week.

Mr Walesa's appeal, which comes amid serious food shortages and unrest among Polish farmers, is the most sweeping he has made since taking charge of Solidarity in August 1980. It reflects a concern, shared by both the Government and Solidarity, that acute shortages during the winter could lead to street violence, spilling out of the control of the independent union.

Solidarity and the Government are discussing a number of key areas of tension in Polish society, as well as trying to work out a common approach to solving food distribution problems. But Solidarity's negotiating position will be seriously undermined if it emerges that it is unable to keep a firm grip on public protest.

Mr Walesa said that food shortages could "become a source of dangerous social tensions and (provoke) spontaneous outbursts of popular anger, which may upset the prospects of economic and political stabilization in Poland". His appeal was to the "working people of the entire world".

There are increasing signs that the immediate problems of the economic crisis are leading to more temperate negotiating positions by both sides. Some Solidarity officials have indicated that they are prepared to withdraw demands for an independent social council to control Government economic policy and are prepared to settle for a consultative body.

The Polish Government, for its part, has recalled troops from the countryside where they have been sent some four weeks ago to monitor the actions of local officials, help move food and fuel and solve local conflicts.

The farmers' protests are now the most nagging source of discontent in the country. A news agency strike ended yesterday after an early retirement scheme and child care allowances were conceded by the Government.

Mr Walesa's Polish Communist Party will hold a plenary session of its central committee next Friday to discuss anti-crisis measures. The official news agency PAP announced tonight.

Vienna: The Austrian Government has given a warning that it may have to reintroduce visas for Poles seeking to enter Austria (David Blow writes). There are some 20,000 Polish refugees in Austria and another 25,000 are coming in every day.

Washington: International Monetary Fund officials will visit Warsaw next month following the application of the Polish Government to rejoin the organization, an IMF spokesman said today. —AP.

South African puritanism relaxes A blind eye to Sunday cricket

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Nov 20

The South African Government appears to have decided to turn a blind eye to the Transvaal cricket authorities plan to organize top-class matches on Sundays in defiance of a nineteenth century Sunday observance law.

Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the Minister of National Education, said last night that the Government was "not in favour of organized public sport on Sundays" and would stick to its policy of not providing organizational or financial aid for such activity.

But he made no mention of the Transvaal Cricket Council's plan to circumvent the law by forming a private club whose members and their guests would be entitled to attend Sunday cricket at the Wanderers' ground in Johannesburg.

True to its Calvinist traditions, South Africa is still in many ways a very puritanical country. Under the Sunday Law of 1896, enacted by President Kruger in the days of the Transvaal Republic, all public entertainments (including sport, trade and "garden or field work") is in theory prohibited on Sundays.

In practice, amateur sport is permitted and professional football, predominantly of the Dutch, sport, regularly draws large

Sunday crowds in black townships like Soweto. If the Government decided to stop it, it would undoubtedly have mass riots on its hands.

Except for the black radio channel, which carries football reports, there are no live sports commentaries on radio or television on Sundays, which, run heavily to religious programmes. The authorities are still undecided as to what policy to pursue when a new black television channel comes on the air in a few months' time.

Cinemas are also closed in many parts of the country on Sundays and censorship (albeit more relaxed than in the past) protects the populace from "immoral" books, magazines and films at all times. The naked female form is generally banned if white but acceptable if black, and striptease artists must wear diaphanous veils and G-string.

The idea of cricket on the Sabbath appears to be somewhat more offensive to Calvinist conservatives than Sunday football, possibly because it is a sport played mainly by whites, and hence, perceived to be anti-Christian. In character, its more plebeian rival, at present Sunday cricket is played only in Natal, which has always been a bit of a law unto itself.

The Transvaal Cricket Council, formed Church and its two smaller offshoots, to which more than 90 per cent of Afrikaans-speaking whites belong, have spoken out against Sunday cricket arguing that it would disrupt family life because mothers and daughters would be left at home.

There are very close links between the ruling National Party and the Dutch Reformed Church, which has faithfully propagated the Government's apartheid policy, adducing scriptural evidence to support racial segregation.

Unlike most of the English-speaking churches, such as the Presbyterians, the Anglicans and the Methodists, the Dutch Reformed Church remains opposed to racially-mixed marriages.

Dr All Bacher, the Transvaal Cricket Council's director, told me that there had already been "a tremendous response from people of all colours" to the plan for Sunday cricket. He believed it would quickly quell the passions, which often only sparsely populated on weekdays.

Dr Bacher led the Springboks in their highly successful 1970 tour of Australia in 1970. Since then South Africa has been "debarred" from international test cricket by the apartheid controversy.

FEZ SUMMIT BOYCOTTED BY GADDAFI

From Geoffrey Weston, Tripoli, Nov 20

Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, will not attend the Arab summit meeting in Fez, Morocco, later this month, he announced in a speech here last night. He denounced those posing to attend as traitors to the Palestinian cause because they would be discussing Saudi Arabia's peace proposals for the Middle East.

He claimed, however, that the main reason he would not go was that he was neither a monarch nor a president, a reference to the fact that he officially retired from active politics in 1979 to advise the Libyan people in a supervisory role. His leadership in practice remains unaltered.

"Those about to attend the Arab summit at Fez are not entrusted by the Arab people to sell the Palestine cause, recognize the enemy and sit with those who have already recognized the enemy," he said.

Colonel Gaddafi was addressing a meeting of the Arab People's Congress, a pan-Arab organization that promotes extreme Arab nationalism and rejects non-Arab, particularly Western, influences.

Swapo: (the South-West Africa People's Organization), Nigeria, Kenya and the so-called front-line states (Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Angola and Mozambique) have already given a broadly affirmative reply to the Western proposals on the constitution of an independent Namibia at present ruled by South Africa.

Their joint reply takes the form of a document entitled: "The position of the front-line states, Nigeria, Kenya and Swapo", which sets out their own constitutional proposals. These follow closely the West's blueprint, though with some minor additions and omissions.

Cautiously described by British Foreign Office spokesmen as "reasonably encouraging", the Swapo and front-line states' document undoubtedly amounts to acceptance of the essence of the West's proposals.

It agrees that the constitution should be adopted by a two-thirds majority, endorses the right of self-determination for the West, and accepts the need for an independent judiciary.

The document omits any reference to the elected regional authorities mentioned by the West.

Pretoria considers reply to West's Namibia plan

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, Nov 20

South Africa is still considering its reply to the proposed first phase of the Western settlement plan for Namibia (South-West Africa) and may not be in a position to make its position known for another week or two.

Informed sources here said Pretoria needed more time to consult the "internal" political parties in Namibia which would have to fight an internationally supervised election against the Swapo guerrilla organization if the independence process is implemented as planned.

The prevailing impression here, however, is that the South Africans will give their broad approval to the Western proposals despite the opposition of most of Namibia's whites, who constitute about 15 per cent of the territory's population.

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Once the five Western powers (America, Britain, France, Canada and West Germany) have all the answers, they will circulate a revised draft of their proposals, to which they hope to get final assent before the end of the year.

Illness forces Argentine President to step down

Buenos Aires, Nov 20

General Horacio Lugo, Argentina's Interior Minister, will replace President Roberto Viola, who is ill, from tomorrow for an unspecified period, it was announced today.

A statement issued by the President's office said Rear Admiral Carlos Lacoste, the Social Welfare Minister, would take over as Interior Minister.

Mr Lacoste is 57, is suffering from high blood pressure and a heart condition, his doctors said today. (Andrew McLeod writes from Buenos Aires). He has been ordered, to rest. The government did not say when he would be able to resume his duties.

President Viola went into the military hospital on November 9 for what was described in an official statement as a "routine check-up". Three days later he returned to the presidential residence in the Buenos Aires suburb of Olivos, where he was to have rested until next Monday and then return to Government House.

For his condition took a turn for the worse on Wednesday and meetings with the economic team at the Olivos residence were cancelled.

General Viola, a chain-smoker until he gave up smoking last week on the advice of his medical team, has been struggling to assert his authority as President in the face of mounting criticism of his Government's economic policies and dissatisfaction with his performance among junta members and high-ranking military officers.

He has complained to the junta of being undermined by the military in Government policies and is reported to have cited as an example a dispute which started last week between the Radical Party and a general over a recent Radical Party statement criticising the military.

President Viola is said to fear that the dispute may jeopardise the Government's "dialogue" with political parties.

Some observers believe that if the President does not assert his authority before the end of the year his government will not survive beyond March.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Brain cell transplant 'possible'

Stockholm—A Swedish doctor has claimed to have made big advances in surgery that could lead to the first transplants in the brain (Chris Christopher Mosey writes).

Professor Erik-Olof Backlund, of the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, said he was now able to transplant certain cells into the human brain that could cure such illnesses as Parkinson's disease.

Dr Backlund said the first transplant operation, in the brain, would be performed next year on a Swedish patient with the disease.

Ex-CIA man on arms charge

New York—A former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency, and his business partner, have been charged with illegally supplying guns and ammunition worth \$125,000 (about £70,000) to former President Idi Amin of Uganda about two years ago.

The two men, who were indicted by a grand jury in Manhattan on Thursday are Frank Terpil, formerly of the CIA, and George Gregory, a 43-year-old businessman.

They fled from the United States in September last year to avoid a trial at which they were both found guilty, in absentia, of selling guns and ammunition to overthrow New York police against the Latin American revolutionaries.

Nuclear station licence blocked

Los Angeles—The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has suspended the licence to operate the \$230m (about £120m) Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant until it can be shown that its design will enable it to withstand a big earthquake.

The move, taken in Washington, to suspend the plant's licence to load nuclear fuel and conduct low power test operations, was four to one, with Mr Thomas Roberts, a new commission member, opposing the move.

Mr Jerry Brown, the Governor of California, and an outspoken opponent of the power station, has insisted that the plant was unsafe. It is built within two miles of an offshore earthquake faultline.

Henry Fonda may end career

Hollywood—Henry Fonda, aged 76, was said to be resting comfortably and in good condition at Cedars-Sinai hospital, as he recuperates from a very heavy surgery he underwent in May. His daughter, Jane, the actress said that "He's angry about being sick".

They appear together for the first time in his new film *On Golden Pond* which, Miss Fonda said on television, "will probably be his last and because it is his greatest performance".

Allen told to sort out his records

Washington—Senior White House aides have ordered Mr Richard Allen, the National Security Adviser, to review and make available the records of his contacts with Japanese businessmen (Nicholas Hirst writes).

Mr Allen has become the centre of controversy because he refused to answer questions for helping to arrange an interview with Mrs Nancy Reagan for a Japanese journalist.

Dissident moved

Moscow—Anatoly Shcharansky, the Soviet Jewish activist, has been transferred from a labour camp in the Urals to the strict regime prison, Chistopol, 400 miles east of here where he began his 13-year sentence on espionage charges, sources close to his family said. They did not know why.

Second inquest

Darwin—A judge ordered a new inquest into the death of a nine-week-old baby girl, saying that if new police evidence were accepted it was likely to disprove an earlier coroner's finding that she was dragged away and killed by a dingo (wild dog).

Nuclear sharing

Washington—President Reagan has decided to offer technology, access to classified information, to civilian nuclear power programme.

Israeli general quits in protest

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 20

Major General Danny Matt, overall coordinator of Israeli activities in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights, is to step down at the end of the year after disagreeing with the new hard-line policy of Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister. The general is the senior Israeli officer overseeing the occupation.

Senior Israeli sources described the 53-year-old general's decision not to continue beyond his original two-year term of office as tantamount to a "resignation".

It was pointed out that he was unhappy with a number of actions ordered against recent Arab unrest, particularly the blowing up of four houses in Beit Sahur and Bethlehem,

which left more than 40 Palestinians homeless.

Political observers see General Matt's impending departure as an indication that Israel's military policy against the Palestinians is now very firmly under the control of Mr Sharon, whose personal hand is seen in the recent stepping-up of punitive measures.

General Matt has so far refused to comment on his resignation, which was announced to Mr Sharon this week. It comes only 20 days after Israeli civilian and military power structures in the West Bank were divided and a civilian governor, Professor Menachem Milson, appointed.

The general's decision comes after protests against Mr

Sharon's new policy by Mr Shimon Peres, the leader of the Labour opposition, and a number of left-wing Israeli politicians. In an advertisement in the Hebrew paper *Harezer*, earlier this week, 60 Israeli academics and intellectuals condemned the present practices against Palestinians in the territories occupied in 1967.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Office minister responsible for Middle Eastern affairs, is to visit Washington from Monday to Wednesday to discuss differences between Europe and the United States over the future of the Middle East peace process. He will also talk to senior members of President Reagan's administration and Congress.

The Prime Minister's office last night put out a statement denying any substance to rumours still current here in the wake of the bitter conflicts within the ruling Centre Democratic Union (UCD) that some army leaders had recently approached King Juan Carlos to name a general to take over as Prime Minister.

The came many hours after General Gonzalez's headquarters in Las Palmas had itself put out a statement emphasizing the general's attachment to Spain's 1978 democratic constitution and loyalty to the king.

Spanish MP admits talk with army commander

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Nov 20

A leading MP from Spain's ruling party today admitted having had talks in Madrid last month with Lieutenant General Jesus Gonzalez del Yerro, captain general of the Canary region and one of the leading personalities in the armed forces.

Senator Oscar Alzaga, who belongs to the party's rightist Christian Democrat wing, sought to make light of the "social contacts" first revealed in today's *El Pais*. The Madrid daily claimed the general had talks with other political and business figures revealing a close interest in current happenings.

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Illness forces Argentine President to step down

Buenos Aires, Nov 20

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A statement issued by the President's office said Rear Admiral Carlos Lacoste, the Social Welfare Minister, would take over as Interior Minister.

Mr Lacoste is 57, is suffering from high blood pressure and a heart condition, his doctors said today. (Andrew McLeod writes from Buenos Aires). He has been ordered, to rest. The government did not say when he would be able to resume his duties.

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What will Brezhnev do to keep his best friend in the West?

In Soviet eyes President Brezhnev's visit to Bonn starting tomorrow is one of the most important he has made in the 17 years since he came to power. Not only does it come at one of the most difficult periods for the Soviet Union since the Second World War, but it will show whether the German-Germany relationship, which Mr. Brezhnev's policy of détente has been built, is able to withstand the cold war hurricanes raging at home and abroad.

For the West Germans too, living uneasily on the frontier between east and west, the visit is a chance to work for a little more security in an increasingly alarming world.

Mr. Brezhnev has consistently made re-orientation with West Germany the basis of Soviet policy towards Western Europe. Over the past decade this has paid off handsomely for him. West Germany is the Soviet Union's largest western trading partner. With the departure of President Giscard d'Estaing, it is the only NATO country where the Russians still enjoy a special political relationship.

With an old man's nostalgia for earlier, easier days, Mr. Brezhnev this summer pointedly reminded Herr Willy Brandt, Herr Schmidt's predecessor, that the two men ushered in a new era of détente in Europe with the signing of the Moscow Treaty in 1971 that gave the go-ahead to Bonn's Ostpolitik. But the Soviet leader also recognized that the international climate was now colder and harsher. Indeed, over the past year much of the warmth has gone out of the Moscow-Bonn

relationship (clearly expressed in East Germany's sudden cooling of relations with the Federal Republic), and the Russians have bitterly attacked Herr Schmidt for his stout defence of NATO's twin-track decision to rearm and negotiate.

Mr. Brezhnev's visit therefore has two interlocking aims: to buttress the relationship with West Germany and to demonstrate to hardliners at home, especially among the military, and in Washington that détente can still be preserved in Europe.

The second is more pressing, but also more difficult in the wake of Afghanistan, the Polish crisis, the Soviet military build-up and incidents such as the Soviet submarine intrusion near a Swedish naval base.

However, the Russians have recently been rather successful in putting their case to Western Europe. Increasingly alarmed by the tenor and thrust of the Reagan administration's policies towards the Soviet Union, Moscow has skillfully encouraged the growing "peace" movement and by a combination of good public relations, restraint, flexibility, a new openness in talking to visiting politicians and the exploitation of European doubts it has presented a public image of a country intent on peace and eager for talks.

Chancellor Schmidt will press yet again for a meeting between Mr. Brezhnev and the American President. He is convinced that it is dangerous that the decision-makers in East and West do not speak to each other.

Acutely aware that his country would be the battlefield in a war, he argues that the world would be a much safer place if both sides understood each other's problems and knew how the other was thinking.

He can be expected to urge serious and productive negotiations on reducing the numbers of medium range missiles which are the cause of so many fears.

Since the Chancellor met Mr. Brezhnev last June the situation in West Germany has become much more frightening. The number of Soviet three-headed SS-20 medium range missiles to which NATO has no reply as yet, has risen and with it the threat of a Soviet attack, at least of intolerable political pressure from Moscow.

At the same time the NATO decision to counter the SS-20s with new Pershing two and Cruise missiles while negotiating a balanced East-West reduction has increased, rather than lessened West German feelings of insecurity. The burgeoning peace movement is fuelled by the fear that the new missiles, on top of some 6,000 nuclear warheads already stationed here, make them a sitting target in the event of a nuclear war.

But the Chancellor is likely to disabuse Mr. Brezhnev of any illusions that the peace movement, even though it affects his own party, is in any way weakening West Germany's commitment to the West.

His position has been greatly strengthened by Presi-



dent Reagan's speech this week stating the United States' firm commitment to negotiate for massive nuclear arms reduction in Europe.

This has pre-empted any possible attempt by Mr. Brezhnev to conduct a propaganda exercise for the West Germans' benefit, posing as the only superpower that seriously wants peace and disarmament. There is speculation in Bonn that Mr. Brezhnev might feel he has to make another gesture of his own so as not to be outdone.

The second purpose of the talks with Mr. Brezhnev is to improve bilateral relations with the Soviet Union, particularly in trade.

In a recent interview with The Times Herr Schmidt said that the world economic trade, but stressed that his was a free country with a free

economy and that it was for business, not the Government, to take the initiative.

"You know, the Soviet Union is a very close neighbour to central Europe. We are interested in having good economic relations because there is a psychological and political split-over from there into other fields."

He told The Times he would also ask Mr. Brezhnev whether East and West could not do something in common to overcome the world economic recession.

He did not elaborate, but aides said later that the Chancellor would probably put his view that the Soviet Union which is suffering from the world economic crisis like the West - should come out of its economic isolation and join in efforts to put things right.

Mr. Brezhnev is likely to be told that the Soviet Union should take its share of responsibility for helping developing countries.

It is unlikely that the Soviet leader will himself be able to argue a change of view in Bonn in two days of talks. He is almost 75, in poor health, tired easily and cannot lead lengthy negotiations on matters of such complexity. But he is still the symbolic and actual leader of the Soviet Union, and by sending him in person - on possibly one of his last major state visits - the Russians could not have more forcefully demonstrated the urgency of their concern.

Michael Binyon

Patricia Clough

Bonn

Geoffrey Smith

How Reagan has regained the initiative

The past three weeks have been the most tumultuous in the Reagan Administration has yet experienced. It has suffered three severe embarrassments: the undermining of Alexander Haig, the indiscretion of David Stockman and the mysterious conduct of Richard Allen. It has also conducted a series of major proposals for international disarmament that have won widespread approval at home and in Europe. How is it possible to reconcile these two conflicting pictures of an administration that stumbles from one crisis to another in its own internal affairs and of an administration that is now the less capable of such a bold and imaginative international initiative?

This would not be the first American administration to produce an impressive international record while having all sorts of trouble at home. That was certainly true of the Truman and Nixon regimes. But it is not an entirely convincing explanation of what is now happening in the United States. Two out of the three recent difficulties suffered by the administration - the troubles of Mr. Haig and Mr. Allen - should, in theory, impair its ability to conduct international policy.

If they are not resolved, they may indeed have that effect in due course. But though these embarrassments may have a common consequence, they do not have a common cause. When such setbacks occur in quick succession it is tempting to suppose they tell us something about the nature of the Reagan regime. How they are handled will do so, but the incidents themselves are so separate in time and nature that it would be misleading to draw a general conclusion from them.

They, combined effect, however, is to present the President with two distinct challenges. In the first place, they have given rise to the question of an administration that is accident-prone. Before Mr. Reagan's disarmament speech on Wednesday there was much speculation in Washington, among Republicans as much as Democrats, that the administration was well on its way to losing the confidence of the country in its first year of office. There was much talk of a crisis of government.

But Mr. Reagan's speech has stilled such talk for the time being. It has begun, in classic example of regaining the initiative by changing the subject. Nevertheless the administration will have to take exceptional care for some time yet not to be seen stumbling again. So long as a few accidents can be accepted easily enough in politics so long as they seem to be accidents. Once they appear to be a habit they destroy confidence in the government, whatever the reason for them. For a little while the top priority will have to be to convince the country that the true character of the Reagan team is indicated by the statesmanship of Wednesday's speech rather than by the tendency to trip themselves up. So long as that period lasts there will be less scope for political daring.

But the task is not only the political one of restoring confidence. There is also the challenge of ensuring that the administration's efficiency is not impaired by the recent happenings. This will require the President to determine whether and if so for how long to keep each of the principal officers involved. Each of them presents a

different question. In the case of Mr. Haig it is whether he can be fitted satisfactorily into the team. His grasp of the substance of foreign policy is widely respected. But he has poor relations with many of his colleagues, not just with Mr. Allen, the national security adviser. It cannot be corrected. It will be impossible to conduct a consistent foreign policy for any length of time.

The question in Mr. Stockman's case is whether his political credibility has been destroyed. There are good judges in Congress who believe that it has been. So long as that doubt persists it will be difficult to weaken the budget director's influence within the administration, as well as outside.

This would be a matter of some consequence because it would influence the administration's consideration of the most critical issue of domestic policy: whether the massive budget deficits that are in prospect can safely be accommodated. Will they be of only minor significance at times when they snuff out any chance of an economic revival by pushing up interest rates again as soon as a recovery begins?

Mr. Stockman is the most formidable advocate of cutting the deficit, both by reducing expenditure and raising taxes. His exceptional ability is acknowledged on all sides. But that is not enough to ensure that a man will be so helpful in the White House. It is his political authority that has collapsed.

Mr. Allen presents Mr. Reagan with a rather different choice. It is not whether he should go, but when. Whether or not he took a beating in the recent poor judgment. He is not considered much of a general asset to the team and his relations with Mr. Haig are particularly bad. But can a politically appropriate time be found to bring about his departure? The worst of all worlds will be if the President does nothing about any of the three in the vague hope that things will somehow get better. If Mr. Haig is to remain as Secretary of State and it is not clear if he were to be dropped shortly after Wednesday's speech - Mr. Reagan must create the conditions in which Mr. Haig can make his full contribution. Mr. Stockman is evidently to be kept at least until it is seen how he is received by Congress when he next has to testify on Capitol Hill on behalf of the new budget in late January or February. The calculation is that the future may have blown over by then. But if that judgment is wrong, the administration will have a considerable embarrassment with Congress over that budget.

The distinct danger is therefore that in responding to these three episodes Mr. Reagan may be seen to display a lack of firmness and judgement in managing his team. That would have a corrosive effect for the rest of his term of office. If the danger can be avoided in these incidents, this administration will not be so bad as it is often portrayed. It has now shown that it can act both decisively and sensitively in the international scene. In domestic affairs it is the moderate Republicans who are on the whole increasing their influence. But the central question remains whether the President is seeking incompatible objectives. He can neither accept budget deficits of the size that now loom nor bring himself to make the hard decisions necessary to cut them significantly.

Caroline Moorehead

When a mug loses his wump

It seems bad luck that the Gang of Four and the other Members of Parliament who have left Labour to form the Social Democrats should be labelled for ever as defectors.

Defector has pejorative connotations. It is a bad word. It looks at what they have done from one point of view only, that of the Labour Party faithful. Other points of view are possible. Sir John and his companions have stuck to their principles, while this Great Movement of Theirs has drifted, or been towed, far to the left; that they have seen the light; that they have done a number of things more positive and more interesting than merely defecting.

Defector and many near-synonyms came into the language during the religious and political turmoil of the Seventeenth Century, which tore the country apart. From recreant to tergiversator, and from apostate to seceder they are all right too. But no, a mugwump is a defector. Enthusiastic religion, like enthusiastic politics, has none but harsh words for those who think for themselves and change their minds.

Americans have a fine native name for bolters or mavericks who desert the party. Mugwumps. Until now they have been used to look for an alternative to defector for the SDP MPs. I had thought that a Mugwump was a chief important Big White Chief whose esteem for himself exceeded his merits. But no, a mugwump is a defector. It came into the language, in the Indian Bible of 1663 from the Algonquin language, in which a mugwump is a title to describe a chief or some other VIP: not bad for the Gang of Four, really.

In June 1984 the Republican Convention picked the controversial James Gillespie Blaine as its candidate for the Presidency. A number of high-minded Republicans decided that they could not support a candidate they considered corrupt, and bolted the party.

The New York Sun mockingly labelled them Little Mugwumps, meaning little men trying to be big chiefs. The Mugwumps endorsed Cleveland, the Democratic candidate, and denounced Blaine as "a representative of men, methods, and conduct which the public conscience condemns." Cleveland won, natch. It was a dirty, rude, jolly election. Since then political lexicographers have defined a Mugwump as a sort of bird that sits on a fence with his mug on one side and his wump on the other.

I offer Mugwump as a politeness word for those who have crossed the floor of the House diagonally, though I do not suppose they will like it. I tried words for those who have needed the other convert, catchment, illuminating. They all sound patronizing, and have a horrid ring of religious zeal and the born again.

Luckily the linguistic difficulty will soon go away. After the next election, the defectors will either have lost their seats, and be mugs without wumps; or, let us hope, they have been elected in their own right as Social Democrats (both, as it happens, very heavily loaded political words).

Philip Howard

The man who does Neptune's dirty work

Yesterday, after several weeks of uncertainty and internal wrangling, the United States Congress apparently finally agreed to make sea pollution a priority in next year's United Nations Environment Programme Budget. Environmentalists have greeted the news with a mixture of despondency and relief. Despondency that this is a reduction of over 25 per cent on last year's contribution, and relief that the State Department has not succeeded in axing the United States contribution altogether as part of President Reagan's call for cuts in aid to international organisations. That could well have brought to an end the entire nine-year-old programme.

The United States contribution is crucial. It gives not only 30 per cent of the entire budget, but does so in negotiable currency (the USSR will give only in rubles). What is more, it pays up unlike Japan, who pledged \$4m for 1981, but has still paid nothing, or West Germany, whose promised \$2m has still not materialized.

Nowhere has the news been greeted with greater relief than by the Regional Seas Programme, unquestionably the most dynamic and successful of UNEP's sections, and what one government not long ago described as the "jewel in its crown". That this small programme, representing no more than a tenth of UNEP's total budget and consisting of just five treaties based in Geneva (170 miles from the nearest sea) should be so exciting is due almost entirely to the remarkable and obsessive man who runs it. Stjepan Keckes, a bearded Yugoslav in his late forties, affectionately called "Mr Seas" by his friends. He was in London for a one-day meeting yesterday.

The Regional Seas Programme grew naturally out of the Stockholm Conference resolution in 1972 to make sea pollution a priority. Stjepan Keckes was the obvious choice to head it as a marine scientist he has an encyclopaedic knowledge of all things to do with the sea, and the technical training to know what can be done to preserve it. He is also what colleagues describe as a "bon viveur", aware as a person rather than a bureaucrat of the pleasures of swimming, the deliciousness of fish and the beauties of an unspoiled coastline.

Stjepan Keckes started with the Mediterranean: no easy challenge with 18 countries politically at odds with one another, and a tourist rate of over 100 million people a year. Within a short time, Keckes had trained assistants to run 86 monitoring laboratories in 16 countries, collecting precise data on pollution, and providing him with actual scientific facts rather than woolly suspicions with which to confront governments.

In May last year he got 17 of the Mediterranean governments (Albania refused) to sign a binding covenant and to commit more than \$50,000m over the next 15 years to control pollution. While this was being discussed he persuaded the member countries to implement safeguards on toxic chemicals and dumping. "The Mediterranean is not in better shape now than it was five years ago," he says, "but it is no longer getting worse and it will now get better."

The claim sounds small but the work involved was prodigious. It was not just a question of getting 17 different nations to agree to limit sewage flowing untreated into the sea, to curb factory



Stjepan Keckes: a mission on the seas

wastes and keep a wary eye on the building of marinas. He had to get Greeks and Turks, Algerians and Moroccans, Libyans and Egyptians to meet and talk. For the Israelis and the Arabs it was the first international treaty signed, an event which signified the political niceties of which are not lost on Keckes. He is a diplomat, treading the labyrinthine ways of international diplomacy deftly and with humour. It is an indication of the sort of rivalries that he has had to cope with that it took him four years to forge an agreement between Iran and The Gulf states over the Persian Gulf. The word "Persian" was not acceptable to the Arabs; nor "Arabian" to

the Iranians, and the word "Gulf" pleased no one at all. It is now known as "The Region".

Stjepan Keckes is a zealous worker, filling long days with meetings and travelling away from his home in Geneva over half the year. "I feel I'm spread too thin," he says. "120 countries, ten regions. What he is aiming for everywhere are covenants, more binding because they involve actual changes in national legislation, than the plans of action countries more readily agree to."

There is a great deal still to be done. Plans of action are in force in seven of his ten seas, leaving East Africa, South Pacific and South West Atlan-

tic to be covered by 1983. Deals get harder to make; unlike the Mediterranean there is little corporate spirit, no historical sense binding the members of the sea he is now entering. "What do the Pacific islands have in common?" he asks. Some seas, like the China sea, defeat him in advance, on political grounds alone.

Stjepan Keckes is an infinitely pragmatic man. His ambitions are regional, rather than global. He is eager to introduce common sense into the policies he administers, reduce rather than increase prohibitions. There have long been rigid agreements governing the sale of Mediterranean fish with a high mercury content. With his labs, Keckes has proved that the mercury does not come from pollution but from the bed of the sea itself. Since the mercury threatens only fishermen and pregnant women he is urging governments to issue warnings rather than trade barriers. On the subject of polluted bathing waters he argues: "We now know, scientifically, what standards to set. They don't need to be higher than safe, and where people are going to swim they must be met. But why do people assume that they must swim everywhere? Unfortunately we are too many people. We have to sacrifice part of the sea for other purposes."

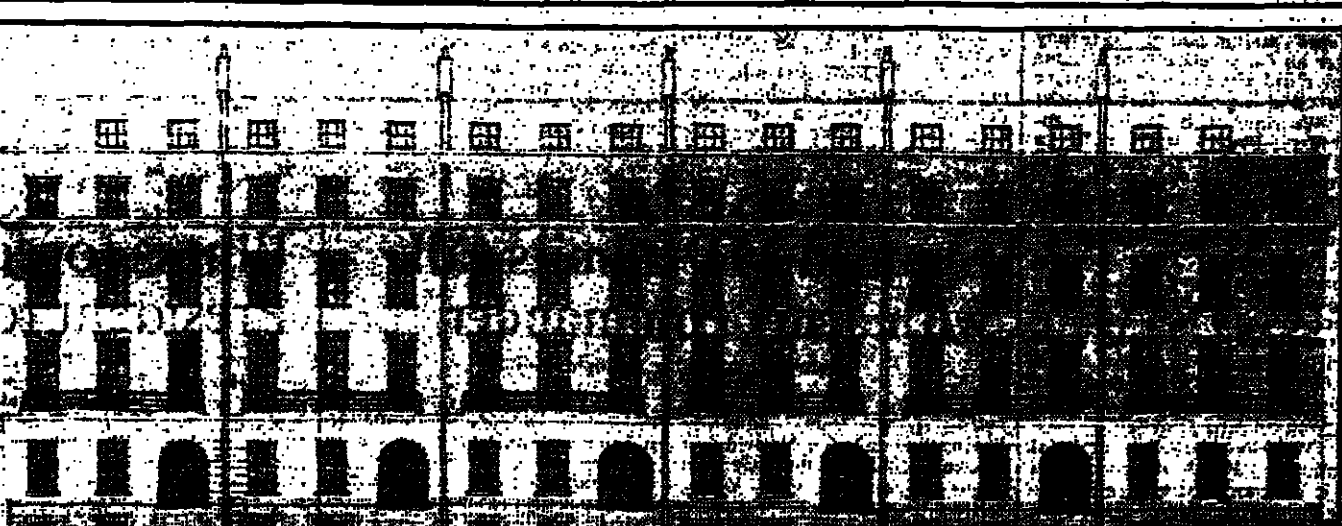
But Stjepan Keckes is also an idealist, albeit rather a wry one, which may account for the hours he works and the passions he brings to his job. "I want to see people swim," he says. "I want there to be fish. And I want to preserve something nature created. It's an ethical problem. Why should we, just because we can, destroy the sea?"

Caroline Moorehead

Seedy dandies in the square

One cannot help but be sorry for London University. Opposition arises no matter what building projects it undertakes. One reason must be the high artistic and architectural importance of the place in which it has chosen to nest: Bloomsbury, a late Georgian development of squares and streets in London. It has been so criticized for its modern architecture, in this setting, that it must feel hurt by an attack on its new reproduction architecture. Yet its new proposal for Russell Square is quite extraordinarily spineless.

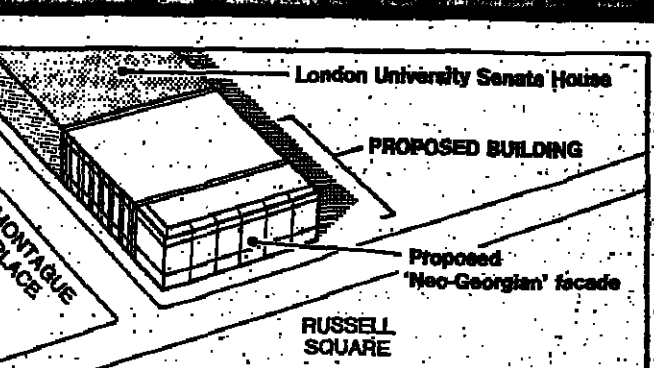
Late Georgian squares do not make the easiest accommodation for the headquarters of one of the largest universities in the world. From the moment in the Thirties that the university decided to build itself headquarters appropriate to its Bloomsbury character began to suffer. First, Malet Street, in which Charles Holden designed the mammoth Russian-like Senate House. Behind it, a site facing



on to Russell Square was demolished in 1939 for a proposed Ceremonial Hall. The war intervened - although more than 400 piles were placed in anticipation - and in postwar times, funds proved inadequate and were used instead to help with the costs of the Logan Hall, which forms a subterranean piece of Sir Denys Lasdun's new Bedford Wall.

After the war, the university continued to trample through Bloomsbury - Woburn Square, Gordon Square and Bedford Way all began to feel the effects of the hatching of this particular dinosaur's egg.

War-weary, the university must have hoped for an easier ride when it came to develop the derelict site facing Russell Square. After all, it had been



empty for almost 40 years and the scale of the gigantic Senate House behind it had destroyed whatever illusions remained about keeping its Georgian character. In any case, other parts of Russell Square had been turned over to hotels, and after the war,

was that it was never a top-class square, and its original heyday had lasted only a few decades before the mob began to use it as a parking lot for whom it was built. Vanished to Belgrave. The Russell Square site is to be used for London School Examination Board Headquarters.

The new building, with 200 permanent staff and up to 500 temporaries, will be the central point for the seasonal despatch and receipt of millions of exam papers and submissions. For the rest of the year, it is the place that academics and teachers meet to prepare and set exam questions, and scrutinize the results. The function of the building is - literally - prosaic, and its internal disposition likewise. The total cost will exceed £6m by the time it is completed in 1983.

"We are faced with a flabby, spineless and unattractive neo-Georgian reconstruction of a Russell Square that probably never was." Left, an architect's drawing of how London University's new examination building would look.

There is no quarrel with any of that. What is wrong here is the architecture, "we lack of it. What happened was that when original proposals were put forward by the university for a modern building people raised objections. It is a truth universally acknowledged that any prime site in London is virtually unbuildable, so many are the bodies which must comment on the design of the proposed building. There are conservation areas, the Victorian Society, Georgian Group, local community groups, and of course the Royal Fine Art Commission. The university's modern proposal was ameliorated by a new architectural firm of Sir Denys Lasdun, Eggin and Hunter became associated with the project, and the new design evolved.

So what new design, representing the headquarters of examinations from all over the London region, and filling a site that had been derelict for more than 40 years, and overshadowed by the mammoth London University Tower, are we likely to see here? Answer: no new design. Instead, we are faced with a flabby, spineless, and unattractive neo-Georgian reconstruction of a Russell Square that probably never was. This huge new examination building is to be dressed up like half a dozen seedy Regency dandies, posing as a terrace of

Regency houses. Instead of six front doors to six terraced houses there are six quagmires in the form of footloose Venetian windows of alignment with their adjoining windows.

It must be understood what is going on in this development. The front facing Russell Square is purely window dressing, the building behind, and its function has scarcely changed. That being the case, why on earth opt for a pathetic imitation of a historic window dressing? If it is window dressing that is needed, why could the Royal Fine Art Commission (it must bear a major part of the blame for this fiasco) not suggest a different, and perhaps more adventurous form of window dressing? What has happened to Post-Modernists, who can dress up a building to look both interesting and humane, and intellectually exciting?

There is still time. Let London University proceed, and complete its School Examinations Board building on this site. Just let them leave the Russell Square facade for the time being: it won't miss it. That would give them the chance to hand over that facade to the Post-Modernists for consideration. It is about time we had some fresh air!

Charles McKean

Architecture Correspondent



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FAILURES IN THE FOOTHILLS

This has been a discouraging week for the European Community. The Foreign Ministers met on Monday and Tuesday, and again on Thursday, in an attempt to narrow their differences before next week's London summit. But little progress was evident, and the danger is that the summit, which is to discuss such sensitive issues as contributions to the Community budget and reform of the common agricultural policy, could be at best unproductive and at worst disastrous. This would be particularly disappointing for Britain, which had hoped that a successful summit, outlining a future course of action for the Ten, would set the seal on its tenure of the presidency.

There is more at stake, however, than British honour. At a time when the Community is anxious to make itself felt in world affairs, not least in the Middle East, it does it no good to be seen in a state of internal disarray. And the issues which are due for discussion, affecting as they do the pattern of budget expenditure, are at the heart of its activities. So it is important that even if complete agreement cannot be reached on the three main topics — budget contributions, agricultural reform and the development of non-agricultural policies — there should

at least be some clear indication of progress.

This complex of issues was originally put on the Community agenda because of the situation in which Britain found itself, of being about to become the largest net-contributor to the Community budget even though it was one of the less prosperous members. A temporary solution was found last year by which rebates were to be paid in 1980, 1981 and, if necessary, 1982. But it is clearly necessary to find a more lasting solution, and more generally, to put an end to the state of affairs in which agriculture absorbs about 70 per cent of the budget to the exclusion of other activities.

There is also the case of West Germany. The Germans have long been the main contributor to the Community budget, and have been prepared to accept the situation because of their political interest in Community membership and other gains they make from it. But today, when there are budget difficulties in Bonn, they are no longer prepared to assume an unlimited financial commitment, particularly when they see the gains made by some of the smaller members such as Denmark and the Benelux countries, all as prosperous as the West Germans. So they, like Britain, have been pres-

sing for a limit on their contribution and a cutback in agricultural spending.

They have also, in an attempt to raise people's eyes above such financial disputes, advocated the adoption of a European Act which would emphasise the Community's longer-term aims. Jointly with the Italians, they have submitted a draft document which outlines the commitment to greater coordination of foreign policy and suggests closer cooperation within the Community, on security issues. It also proposes cooperation in other areas not now covered by the Community, such as culture and justice.

There is no question of the European Act being adopted in London next week. The expectation is that the summit will decide to refer it to the Community's Foreign Ministers for further discussion. There are clearly a number of aspects which are controversial, not least the reference to security issues. But the main trend is one to be welcomed and it is to be hoped that the summit will be prepared to endorse that. The major objective, however, must be to prevent next week's summit being as disappointing as this week's preparations suggest it could be.

FINDING A SAFETY VALVE FOR THE PRISONS

The letter by Mr John McCarthy, the Governor of Wormwood Scrubs, to *The Times* did not reveal anything that everyone with any knowledge of penal affairs did not already know. The considerable impact it has made can be attributed to the identity of the critic, and the passionate terms he employed to make his point.

Mr Whitelaw knows that Mr McCarthy is right, yet he has capitulated to the arrogant and ignorant demands of the law and order lobby at the last Conservative conference. That is a pity, because it means the abandonment of a policy which would have resulted in less overcrowding in favour of one which has no predictable effect. It is not entirely Mr Whitelaw's fault. He inherited dangerously — inhumanly — overcrowded prisons, the fruits of many years of neglect by governments of both parties. The prisons, particularly need the relief promised by the various forms of non-custodial help for offenders who should not be in prison at all but who are being sent there for want of alternatives. The fruits of that neglect are now being reaped, and something has to be done quickly to avert a catastrophe in our prisons.

The French government is accustomed to giving amnesties on the occasion of the accession of a new President. This year, when M Mitterand took office, some 5,000 prisoners were released, not only to mark the new regime, but also to empty France's own overcrowded prisons. Since the Government has decided not to finance any expansion of our prison system, a similar exercise should now be considered here. If an amnesty were to be granted to all prisoners serving sentences of 12 months or less, other than those who have committed

crimes involving violence, it is estimated that some 5,000 prisoners could be released.

Amnesties, by their nature, are not finely tuned instruments of justice. They are certainly under those terms, of imprisonment slightly longer than the sentence at which the line is drawn. They also favour more recent prisoners rather than those whose terms are almost ended. Nor will the distinction between violent and non-violent offences be entirely fair — the gravity of a crime does not always follow that criterion.

A once-and-for-all amnesty would not be enough in itself. It would have to be part of a wider package, which included measures to keep the prison population permanently under 40,000. There would be no point in an amnesty if the calls were over-filled again within a few months. Mr Whitelaw, until his belated face was working along broadly the right lines, by acting on two fronts: first, through persuading judges and magistrates to pass lower sentences on petty, non-violent, non-persistent offenders; and second, by a scheme which would allow many offenders to be released after serving a smaller proportion of their sentence. The first has been reasonably successful, mainly because of the support given to the campaign by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, in his judgments. It is clear that both judges and magistrates have tempered their sentencing habits.

The attempt by Mr Whitelaw to extend the period of remission, however, has fallen on stonier ground. Prisoners serving sentences of between six months and three years would have been released after serving one-third of their sentence, with the second third spent under supervision

by probation officers. The proposal was opposed by the magistrates — who felt that their sentencing powers were being unduly interfered with by the executive, and that it would mean in practice that their maximum sentence of six months would only last for two months — and by the probation service, which claimed that they could not provide the necessary effective supervision.

The government has now returned to the partially suspended sentence, provision for which was made in the Criminal Law Act 1977 but never implemented. This would allow the total sentence to reflect the severity of the offence, while obliging the offender only to serve part of it in prison. Not long ago the government took the view that there was no certainty that it would lead to any reduction in the prison population. It now says that, on an optimistic forecast, there would be a reduction of 4,000 prisoners. Penal reform groups point out that the effect could be the other way, with magistrates and judges using partial suspension instead of wholly suspending a sentence, or would they at once be fined for "abusing the ball" if they did?

The government must re-examine the ways to allow short-term offenders out sooner. One possibility would be to grant remission after one half of the sentence, without any subsequent supervision, for all offenders serving say, three years. Above that, the parole system would continue to operate. Whatever permanent system is introduced, it would have far greater efficacy if it started on a base of 40,000 inmates of our prisons. For that reason, the possibility of an amnesty must be given serious attention.

THE OTHER PAWNS IN THE GAME

The World Chess Championship, which was won yesterday by Mr Anatoly Karpov, very much as expected, has left a rather sour taste. The quality of the chess, according to the experts, was poor. Mr Viktor Korchnoi, the embattled challenger, did not do himself justice. His place in the history of chess is secure. But his fate, on the three separate occasions when he has challenged for the title of world champion, has been to be number two.

On this third, and presumably final, tilt, Mr Korchnoi's age was clearly against him. Chess at this level is only superficially a sedentary game. It requires great stamina, concentration and physical fitness. The twenty years which the challenger was giving to the Soviet champion was too heavy a handicap. That is the most likely explanation for the weaknesses in Mr Korchnoi's play — not just the blunders to which grand masters, like ordinary mortals, are sometimes prone, but a certain flatness and stereotyped quality in his opening play, and a lack of bite in most of his games.

Mr Karpov, though he has attracted some criticism for

his somewhat conformist attitude to chess which is, after all, a very political game in the Soviet Union, is a worthy champion. He is one of the greatest positional players the game has ever seen. There is nothing flashy about his game. His results in international tournaments have been most impressive. The games which he loses in the course of a year can be counted on one hand. The margin by which he defended his title on this occasion, six games to two, draws not counting, was in chess terms over-whelming.

But as all enthusiasts of the game know, the challenger was struggling under a more baleful handicap than merely a difference in years. Mr Korchnoi is an exile from the Soviet Union. He left, as have so many distinguished performers in other fields, because he could not stand what he regarded as the oppressive system. Whatever the rights and wrongs of his particular case, he has shown great courage in fighting for his beliefs and making a new life for himself; and he has earned the veneration of the Soviet establishment as a result.

Moreover, he has left behind him in the Soviet Union a wife and a son. The Soviet

authorities will not let them go. Mr Korchnoi has bitterly denounced the authorities on many occasions, for this onerous and indeed senseless refusal. The circumstances of his marriage are his own affair. What is not in doubt is that he wants his wife and son to be allowed to go to the West. He has even said, putting the matter into chess terms, that their continued detention in the Soviet Union means that he started every game in the championship two pieces down. That may be a funny way of expressing it, but his psychological handicap is obvious enough.

Now that the championship is over and the coveted title remains in the Soviet Union, it is surely time for the Soviet authorities to do the decent thing and let Mr Korchnoi's family go. The World Chess Federation has, from time to time, made representations on Mr Korchnoi's behalf, seemingly to no avail. As usual, politics and sport do not mix very easily. It might be too much to expect that Mr Karpov himself could put a word in the right place. But the Soviet authorities would be doing one of the great players of the game, and themselves, a small service if they could now relent.

Violence as pointer to racial impasse

From Professor John Hutchinson

Sir, There is nothing like a mugging to clear the brain. The ordeal of Henry Fairlie at the hands of the youths in the streets of Washington, DC (*The Times*, November 18) is sad but only daily fare. It is also unfortunate that it typically takes a personal encounter of the violent kind to impress upon the liberal conscience the inner-city black has become the most serious problem of all in our urban lives.

I lived for 30 years in the United States, many of those years in multiracial neighbourhoods; was active in civil rights and trade union affairs; and know of no reason to assume other than that, despite massive investments of money and time and goodwill and new law, the problem will get steadily and catastrophically worse.

What strikes the prodigal in Britain is the bluntness and dishonesty of the public debate on race: the refusal to discuss seriously the social implications of population extrapolations; the ready bestialities of those in all parties who do not share the messengers in the streets; the uncivilized tolerance of the marauding of the aged by the young; the monotonous disparity between the public statements and private misgivings of almost any political figure; the academic argument one encounters; and, perhaps most critical of all, the ignoring of the signalled likelihood of an alliance between black anger, the Jewish strike, the terrorist capacity and the revolutionary purpose. The technology of discontent knows very few limits nowadays.

We have a duty to entertain publicly and systematically the possibility that the problem of the inner-city black (which in Britain essentially means the West Indian) is insoluble by means customary to the free society, if by solubility we mean fraternity and equal opportunity and the cohesion of the community. The Gulf, if long and almost unbroken history is any guide, seems to me too deep for the rainbow of brotherhood.

For the present there is evidently no chance that either of the two major "solutions" proposed — assisted reintegration or ethnic relief, each on a historic scale — will be applied; the first is political apoplexy, the second a racist and inhuman denial of human mercy and adaptability. But what we ought to understand is that, unless either or both of these measures is introduced, we face a kingdom of garrison ghettos with a power to paralyze our lives that no domestic or foreign enemy has ever achieved.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUTCHINSON,
24 John Laib Street,
SW1.
November 18.

Odd ball out

From Mr J. W. T. Tapp

Sir, I recall that at Wimbledon in the 1930s it was the custom, when a line-out was plainly wrong, for the player unfairly benefiting to knock the ball out without any fuss and with, no doubt, some acrobatic demands on his grace. Could not today's players revert to this admirable practice, or would they at once be fined for "abusing the ball" if they did?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TAPP,
Southborough House,
Ashcombe Avenue,
Surrey.
November 18.

Truly constructive

From the Chairman of the British Consultants Bureau

Sir, I refer to the special report on architects which appeared in *The Times* on Thursday October 29, 1981. One subject was not noticed by the report, the contribution which architects make to the balance of payments through their overseas earnings.

Architects directly contributed a sum well in excess of £20m to the balance of payments in 1980. This was mainly the result of the efforts of about 50 practices, which accounted for most of the profession's overseas earnings. Most of the professional fee income arose from work in the Middle East and Africa, which accounted for 65 per cent of the total. Other major areas of export activity were Hongkong and Brazil.

Within Europe, British architects had major sources of income from France, Greece and Luxembourg. This work in turn leads to an appreciable spin-off for the British construction and manufacturing industries.

Yours faithfully,
VERNON LEE,
Royal Institute of British Architects,
66 Portland Place, W1.

Early diagnosis

From Dr John Penman

Sir, Miss Patricia Scotland and others (November 19) write: "Until Banting and Best's discovery of insulin we did not know there was such a thing as sugar diabetes." This should not go uncorrected. The ancients knew there was such a thing, and called it by the name which we still use. It finds a place, for example, in the works of Aretaeus of Cappadocia, a physician who lived in the second century after Christ. Yours sincerely,
JOHN PENMAN,
Foster View,
Upper Chute,
Andover,
Hampshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Two 'incompatible' Irish peoples

From Mr R. A. Bruce

Sir, It is becoming more and more evident that the violence in Ulster will never cease so long as the moderate Irish nationalists (like Dr FitzGerald) and the extremists (like the IRA) are actuated by the same supreme ambition — to unite Ireland.

If this is a legitimate aspiration (and everyone, apart from committed royalists, seems to think it is), then it should be remembered that a previous aspiration of Irish nationalism — the creation of an independent republic — was not achieved "in agreement and in peace", but by using the same methods that the IRA are using now, and against the same enemy — the forces of law and order. It should also be remembered that the perpetrators of those grisly deeds in the past are now honoured as the founding fathers of the republic. The lesson of recent Irish history is clear for all to read: a noble end (Irish nationalism) justifies even the most ignominious of means (murder).

But the unification of Ireland (the nationalist present objective) is not a noble end; it is founded on an illusion — that there exists one single Irish people, whose desire for unity and nationhood has been thwarted by the partition of their country. In reality, as the events of the last 12 years have convincingly shown, there are two peoples in the island (not country) of Ireland, who have as little in common as the peoples in those other strife-torn islands, Cyprus and Sri Lanka. Far from being an injustice, the partition of Ireland is therefore the logical and equitable consequence of the incompatibility of the two Irish peoples.

Even the smaller of those peoples — the Ulster loyalists — are not a mere "community", as the nationalists would have it, but a people in their own right, and that for the best of reasons, because

they feel themselves to be one: in addition, they boast a common tradition, a common religion, and a common allegiance — all of them anathema to the nationalists, their presumptive partners in a united Ireland.

The tragedy of the situation is that one of those Irish peoples, which has so recently won its own right to self-determination, should now seek to refuse that same right to the other, over which of course it has no jurisdiction, and never did have. Not only does the republic claim the right to annex Ulster, a constituent province of the United Kingdom, against the will of its people, but it has had the audacity to embody that claim in an article of its own Constitution; as anyone with a knowledge of Irish history might expect, that article has served as a charter for terrorism.

Dr FitzGerald now suggests, tentatively, that the offending article be "modified", whatever that may mean. Surely something much more drastic is required. The article should, with the maximum of publicity, be disavowed as an affront to the human rights of the Ulster loyalists.

In addition to renouncing all claims on the allegiance of the loyalists, the republic should freely admit their right to remain subjects of the British Crown, as their ancestors had been for centuries. This process of atonement and enlightenment, if conscientiously carried out, should soon erode all popular support for militant nationalism, and may ultimately convince even Senator Kennedy that the British presence in Ulster is no more alien than is the American presence in Hawaii.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
R. A. BRUCE,
118 Hamilton Place,
Aberdeen.
November 18.

SDP and education

From the Headmaster of Westminster School

Sir, Michael McCrum (feature, November 18) takes Mrs Shirley Williams to task for her "latest pronouncement attacking independent schools". But he makes the mistake of reacting to a press report instead of reading the original, and in doing so gives a false impression of Mrs Williams's views.

Mrs Williams's article, published in *The Universe*, points out the dilemma that independent schools pose for anyone who believes both in the right of such schools to exist and in the need to reduce the social divisions in British life.

Her approach to the dilemma is constructive. She does not advocate abolition. She does not demand the end of the school's charitable status, only that society ought to satisfy itself that schools receiving rate and tax concessions should be fulfilling a genuinely charitable purpose. She argues for much closer cooperation between the mainline and independent sectors, particularly at the sixth-form level and in the provision of boarding education.

Finally, she says that the assisted places scheme should be ended because it is, in effect, an obstacle to proper cooperation between the two sectors, and in this I am sure she is right.

To describe these views as an attack on independent schools is not just inaccurate; it is also dangerously trigger-happy, like the sentry who shot the man who was coming over to propose a truce. I would think that after years of sterile debate on independent schools, with destructive hostility on the left and complacent inertia on the right, those who work in the schools would welcome a politician who is prepared to face up to this issue in a constructive way.

And in case cynics believe that Mrs Williams has modified her

position because she has run up against an independent school lobby in Crosby, it should be known that the views she expressed in the article in *The Universe* were precisely those she put to an informal meeting of independent school heads early in July, long before it was known that there would be a by-election in Crosby.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RAE,
Westminster School,
17 Dean's Yard, SW1.
November 19.

Holland Park School

From Mrs Margaret Morgan

Sir, Your story on Holland Park School ("Save all-in school plea", November 10) refers to the "closure" of the school without explaining that what is proposed by the Inner London Education Authority is in fact its amalgamation with two other schools. The merger (made necessary by swiftly-falling school rolls) would leave Holland Park very much as it is: with its existing pupils in its present premises, and its present standards. ILEA members have asked that the name of the school should be retained.

Because of the way legislation covering school reorganisation is worded the authority has no way of amalgamating schools except by technically closing them at the end of term in one form, in order to open them at the beginning of the next term in the new form.

The authority would seek to ensure that the amalgamation caused the minimum disturbance, and that everything should be done to maintain and improve upon the existing standards of Holland Park School. Yours faithfully,
MARGARET MORGAN,
Chairman,
ILEA development sub-committee.
The County Hall, SE1.
November 13.

Crisis in the prisons

From the Director of the Prison Reform Trust

Sir, The brave and impassioned letter which you carry today (November 19) from the Governor of Wormwood Scrubs catches the mood of desperation which has enveloped the prison service with the Home Secretary's abandonment of his supervised release scheme.

The Government's decision is a direct response to the reaction of public opinion which found its voice at the Conservative Party conference. The Home Secretary has rightly drawn attention to the importance of public opinion when considering reform of the penal system. For no government can move in defiance of the views of the voters. Yet, as the reaction to the showing of the BBC's *Strangeways* series has again demonstrated, the views of the

Conservative Party delegates are unrepresentative and indeed on many issues it is now the Home Office which is lagging behind public attitudes.

It is true that it appears that the only policy left with the Home Office is to wait for the Prison Officers' Association to forcibly restrict population to accommodate as they have threatened to do in early 1983. While not so well publicized, a system of informal restriction of this kind is already in operation in many prisons.

An early attempt to reintroduce supervised release into the forthcoming Criminal Justice Bill is the only way of restoring confidence to those humane and dedicated men and women who operate the penal system at the sharp end.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN SHAW,
Prison Reform Trust,
Regent's Park, NW1.
November 19.

Civil Service reforms

From Sir Patrick Nairne

Sir, The organization of Government departments never can be, or should be, unchanging. Only the Government can judge the tactical advantage in disbanding the Civil Service Department now, in 1981, the need for a vigorous drive to modernize the service made a sound strategic case for a radical change from previous arrangements, and for a separate Civil Service Department. Lord Fulton's letter (November 17) provides a welcome rejoinder to Mr Peter Jay's recollections (November 19).

The task of carrying further the modernization, and when necessary reform, of the Civil Service has never been more exacting or more important than it is at this moment. It cannot succeed without imaginative and effective leadership from the centre, by officials as well as by ministers. The test of last week's decision will lie in the impact of the new

arrangements on the staff of the service (and their trade union representatives) and on the performance and economy of over 20 departments, each with a large measure of managerial discretion.

It remains to be seen whether better control can be exercised, more coherent policies implemented, and more rapid improvements achieved by arrangements which, at least at the level of officials where so much management business has to be done, divide organization from manpower and personnel management from pay and allowances. There is an old Whitehall adage that "the urgent drives out the important" — warning words of responsibility now placed upon the Secretary of the Cabinet and the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK NAIRNE,
St Catherine's College,
Oxford.
November 17.

The fight to save film records

From the Keeper of the Department of Film, Imperial War Museum

Sir, I read David Robinson's article (November 18) on the problems of nitrate film deterioration at the National Film Archive with very considerable sympathy. It is probably not generally understood that some of the most important visual records of this century are in danger of disappearing for ever.

However, in respect of one of his quoted examples, David Robinson need worry no longer. The original film records of the battle of Alamein have all been preserved by the Imperial War Museum. I must add that the archive here was set up in 1919 with expert advice from Kodak and from the Government Chemist, so for at least some historical film the preservation movement started at a rather earlier date than he suggests in his article.

Most of the recent difficulties in our own nitrate printing programme have occurred with film shot on inferior stock from about 1943 onwards and stored in inadequate conditions before being passed to the museum. In this respect our experiences are very similar to those of the National Film Archive and we share the common feeling of urgency which David Robinson describes so well.

Yours sincerely,
CLIVE COULTASS,
Imperial War Museum,
Lambeth Road, SE1.
November 18.

Antarctic wealth

From Professor Donald D. Hawkes

Sir, The letter from Dr R M Laws (November 5) indicates that governments are working towards a regime that will permit controlled and responsible exploitation of mineral deposits in the Antarctic. On two counts the present policies of the British Government seem certain to ensure that, irrespective of the environmental debate, this nation will not benefit from any of the mineral wealth of that vast continent.

First, of all the areas in Antarctica the "frozen" British sector is the most accessible by sea, includes the greatest amount of rock exposure and is the area most likely to contain mineral deposits capable of extraction. Present government policy is to withdraw our only naval presence (HMS *Endurance*) in the area and, by all accounts, to concede effective control of the strategically situated Falkland Islands to Argentina.

Second, a large amount of scientific work relevant to the discovery of mineral deposits has been carried out, in cooperation with the British Antarctic Survey, by geophysicists and geology departments (including my own) of universities in this country. Financial support for universities, especially those specializing in science and technology, is being reduced in a most thoughtless way. Work in Antarctica is yet another facet of university research that is likely to be curtailed.

The potential development of Antarctica (even if it is one tenth of the Earth's surface) may seem of little consequence in our present financial crisis, but it is well to remember that access to mineral deposits determines, in no small way, the future of all nations.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD D. HAWKES,
Head of Department of Geological Sciences,
University of Aston in Birmingham,
Gosta Green, Birmingham.

Battle for the bottle

From Mr Eric Silvester

Sir, Another (and important) aspect of the returnable containers issue is their almost complete absence from the litter scene. In his article today (November 19) Richard North cites the action of the State of Oregon. In a small way from a brief visit I can confirm the benefits of this state-imposed deposit charge of 10 cents on drink bottles and cans.

At picnic sites, fully equipped with all mod cons, it is common to see children, and sometimes the rather needy-looking adult, searching the garbage bins and the likely surrounding area to supplement their cash flow.

One evening a dozen or so bottles and cans were left on the grass of a picnic site by a group of car-driving teenagers. No garbage vehicle called during the night, but by morning all the containers had gone.

Also there appeared to be none of the nonsense we get here of having to return the bottles from whence they came, having to show the necessary tag on the cap or the rubber stamp on the label.

Litterwise it certainly seemed to work in Oregon. My grandson is a collector.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC SILVESTER,
57 Park Avenue,
Chippendale,
Wiltshire.
November 19.

Matrimonial burdens

From Mr J. H. McGivering

Sir, As a confirmed bachelor (to date) I find I have been carrying out most of the duties mentioned in this correspondence — is it possible I am entitled to an allowance? Yours hopefully,
J. H. MCGIVERING,
17 Addlestone Park,
Addlestone,
Weybridge,
Surrey.
November 18.

Saturday Review

To the generation
between the wars,
Stefan Zweig, man
of letters—biog-
rapher, poet, play-
wright, storyteller
—was 'the Great
European': yet his
life ended in exile
and despair.

Stefan Zweig has suffered, since his death in 1942, a darker eclipse than any other famous writer of this century. Even "famous writer" understates the prodigious reputation he enjoyed in the last decade or so of his life, when he was arguably the most widely read and translated serious author in the world.

Yet I suspect very few English-speaking readers who have grown up since the Second World War know anything of him at all, except the name. No one has been deeper drowned in the shade of his great German and Austrian contemporaries: Thomas Mann, Hesse, Rilke, Schnitzler, Hofmannsthal and the rest. Virtually all his books are long out of print in English. Even in Germany, where he is still read, there has been a marked lack of academic interest in his work.

Why should this remarkably fertile and gifted writer be so neglected? Before that can be answered, I must try to tell his life briefly.

Zweig was born in Vienna on November 28, 1881, of a cosmopolitan and cultured Jewish family, then typical of many others in that easy-going city. The silver spoon that met him when he entered the world was later to become something of a crucifix; but few writers can have had an easier first 30 years of existence. (After 1914 the memory of them, of a lost world, was permanently to haunt him.)

A younger son, he met no obstacles, either private or public, in his early literary career. His millionaire father did not force him into the family textile business. Such men were only too happy for their children to show that racial genius extended far beyond a mere talent for business. Much later, Zweig was to blame his parents for the "lux" religious atmosphere in which he was brought up. The family's Jewishness was very lightly worn; much more a matter of international connexions, of urbane tolerance, of belief in the Semitic yeast among nations, than of any orthodoxy. The household was virtually bilingual: French (there were relatives in Paris) and English were spoken, as well as German.

All this was to mark Zweig young, very young, why he became the greatest German francophile of his age, the most fervent internationalist, with a lifelong hatred of passports and frontiers. It is difficult today to read the story of early twentieth-century pan-Europeanism without cynicism, so flagrant did history jackboot it into oblivion, so petty and mercenary has been its attempted re-establishment in recent years.

Even in the early days (perhaps the movement was already wise in deciding that Britain and Russia could never be part of Europe) idealism and fine words were a good deal more in evidence than practical action. A perennial fault, it must be said, in Zweig himself. Yet however much we may sneer now at the notion of a "world-Switzerland", the creed of one Europe was a vital influence among many French and German writers and intellectuals between 1900 and 1930.

Zweig had become, by 1914, a brilliant and much-travelled young star in this movement, already successful both as an interpreter of French writing to the German world and as an author in his own right. His "guru" was the internationalist poet, Emile Verhaeren, whom he had first gone to Belgium to meet in 1902. To Zweig's distress Verhaeren lost his faith after the German atrocities of 1914; but by then he had already met a more enduring master and influence, Romain Rolland. Though he never agreed with Rolland's Marxist side, he was to venerate him for the rest of his life.

During the war Zweig worked

for a time in Vienna, in uniform, as a propaganda clerk; but in 1917, increasingly disillusioned by the futility of what was happening, he got himself into Switzerland. His first brief enthusiasm for the conflict (seen as a kind of necessary purge) was long over; now a better Europe had to be built from the ashes of defeat. There was then a collection of pacifists and humanists from all over Europe in Switzerland, including Rolland, Hesse and James Joyce; and for the next 15 years Zweig was committed to this general movement—artists and intellectuals as harbingers of a new and nobler international order.

His output for the cause during the 1920s both in terms of published work and private correspondence, to say nothing of endless journeys, articles, translations, lecture-tours, almost defies belief. The same decade saw his sales and worldwide reputation soar. The European public adored him: an admiration unusually shared, apart from one or two exceptions like Hugo von Hofmannsthal, by most of his fellow writers. In a way he became, with Rolland, the best-known representative of the humanist, war-hating side of the European conscience.

His literary success, in the theatre, in fiction, in his famous biographical studies, was far from merely popular. Freud, Einstein, Schweitzer, Toscanini, Thomas Mann, even Goering, were among his devoted readers. "Friendship is the religion," wrote Rolland. Most of the friends were very famous people. On May 13, 1924 Zweig gave a lunch in Vienna for Richard Strauss and Schnitzler to meet Rolland; the next day they all went off to visit Freud. Such Olympian gatherings were commonplace in his life. He was a great linker, a cultural diplomat—some said, knowing his restless nature, a little bit of a poseur.

For this was the public face. The private one was much more complex and shadowed. By true temperament he was a shy and reserved man (the least personal biography he ever wrote was his own); and nothing if not modest about his own gifts. One side of him hated the adulation he met wherever he went, the endless letters he received. Another could never turn down an invitation, a literary project, a foreign tour; a call for help from a less successful writer. He kept talking of his need for peace and solitude; whenever he found it, he grew rapidly depressed and bored.

In his unhappy last years of exile he spoke of himself as a wandering Jew; but for most of

his life "wandering" abroad (the idea of *vielfache Heimat*, the " manifold homeland ") was a way of life he chose and loved. There was often a deep divorce between what he wrote publicly and what he felt privately. The black despair that was finally to kill him is already in evidence behind the scenes during this period. As early as 1921 he had smelt the rise of Fascism during a visit to Italy.

The immediate post-war spirit of Vienna disgusted Zweig, and in 1919 he installed himself in a house in Salzburg—ominously, had he but known it, in sight of Berchtesgaden. Since before the war the woman in his life had been Friderika von Winternitz. She was unhappily married, with two daughters, and because

of the difficulty of divorce then, they were not able to regularise their liaison until 1919.

It was to be a modern marriage, in theory; in practice it was the husband who took all the freedoms, and patient Friderika all the domestic troubles and responsibilities. In spite of his marked psychological understanding of women in general, Zweig often showed painfully little for her feelings, and none at all when the marriage finally broke down in the 1930s.

He knew it, for if on the one hand he was hopelessly addicted to his own personal liberty, on the other he was very seldom dishonest about his own failings. The most celebrated story here, a letter from an *Unknown Woman*, must be read in the

context of his first marriage. There can be little doubt that close behind "the novelist R." sits an aspect of the author himself.

A further shadow lies over his attitude to the rise of Nazism. Normally so prescient, he was strongly slow to react to the clear danger signal of the 1930 Reichstag election. Like so many others, he seems even to have seen National Socialism as a potentially rejuvenating factor in German politics.

The signals of 1933—the Reichstag fire, the burning of the books, Thomas Mann's exile—could not be missed, and in October Zweig went on what was effectively a reconnaissance to England, to see if he could face living in a country he knew

better through its literature (which he admired) than its reality. In fact he fell for the calm and peace of London after Vienna and Salzburg, though he never came to love England as he did France. On a further visit in 1934 he hired the German refugee secretary, Charlotte Altmann who was to become his second wife.

That was not the only unwise (or widely misunderstood) decision he took that year. In 1932 Richard Strauss, who had not got over the loss of his great librettist Hofmannsthal, had read a Zweig version of Ben Jonson's *The Silent Woman*. Zweig's libretto from it delighted the composer. At last he had a worthy collaborator again.

By 1934 the music was nearly ready. The Nazi Party did not want to alienate the great man; but Strauss insisted that this new partner "of undesirable race" should be given due credit. With his usual shrewd nose for propaganda values, Goebbels argued for expediency against his more blindly anti-Semitic colleagues; and it was Hitler himself who finally sanctioned production and public announcement of the partnership.

All this distressed many in the growing émigré community, who felt that if anyone could afford—and ought—to take a stand it was the rich, world-famous Zweig. In the end, in 1935, *Die Schweigsame Frau* was banned after two performances. But the damage was done.

In hindsight we may perhaps judge Zweig's attitude, then and later, more kindly than many of his contemporaries did. At least it was principled, for he had a quintessential hatred of all racism, and for condemning any nation *en bloc*. He also believed that too outspoken action could only aggravate Nazi intransigence and make life worse for the Jewish writers and intellectuals still in Germany and Austria.

Of course history was to prove him wrong, but at least—at that time—he was obeying deeply held beliefs over the proper function of the writer and the role of intelligent persuasion in human affairs. He can certainly not be faulted for the considerable work he did behind the scenes (and the money he gave) on behalf of refugees—less fortunate than himself.

For the growing estrangement with his wife he must be entirely blamed. He insisted she remained behind in Austria to sell the Salzburg house (also to look after his ailing mother in Vienna); and then proceeded to blame her for not doing it, in appallingly difficult circumstances, more quickly. All this

came during the secret affair with Lotte, and must have added private to public guilt. As so often in his life, he took refuge in work, making it at least partly an excuse for sins elsewhere.

The year 1938 was particularly grim for him. After the Anschluss he lost his last remaining publisher in the German-speaking world, and from then on felt cut off from his mother-tongue. He lost his real mother also, since she died in Vienna; and at the end of the year he lost Friderika, in divorce.

By 1939 he declared himself totally exhausted, and without hope: nothing could stop Hitler. Europe was done for. He must have felt a bitter irony when, in Paris that year, Jules Romains hailed him as the "Great European".

More and more his reluctance to declare himself (he still maintained that Jewish meddling in politics was a chief cause of anti-Semitism) shocked his more active and positive friends; more and more they smelt an "inner cowardice" in his *Abseitsstehen*, or staying aloof. Again he knew it, and agonised.

In 1939 he and Lotte Altmann moved to Bath. They married there on September 6, a week after the invasion of Poland. Still the old internationalist, he hated the suspicion of German-speaking émigrés then rife in England, and the insensitive bureaucracy installed to deal with them. Red tape nearly stopped him from going to London for Freud's funeral on September 26.

At times his anger over such matters seemed dangerously irrational. He was furious one day when another train taking him to London was delayed and made him miss an appointment. The delay was caused by the mobilization emergency—against those who did make trains run on time.

On March 12, 1940 he and Lotte became naturalized Britons. But the fall of France in June upset him deeply, and he saw no chance of his new homeland holding out against Germany. In July the Zweigs sailed for the United States, and two months later went on from there for a lecture-tour of South America. Treated as the great artist-ambassador from suffering Europe, he was given an overwhelming welcome. But by now his sense of irreversible world catastrophe, the defeat of all he believed in, was making him lose touch with reality.

There was a return to New York early in 1941, and a meeting with Friderika and his two stepdaughters, who had managed to escape from France. He and Friderika had never stopped writing to one another; and fate had punished him over his second marriage. But by now his sense of irreversible world catastrophe, the defeat of all he believed in, was making him lose touch with reality.

In August he returned to Brazil with Lotte, and they rented a house at Petropolis, not far from Rio de Janeiro. There, among other things, he wrote perhaps his finest story, *The Royal Game*. But by this time the first terrible rumours about the concentration camps were reaching the outside.

Zweig entered a state of pathological depression. Only just 60, he wrote to friends as if his life was over and all his old powers gone (the latter in the face of abundant evidence to the contrary). As in the past, though Petropolis gave him the peace he claimed to crave, he hated the lack of letters, of intellectual friends, of the old participative literary life.

On February 16, 1942 the Zweigs drove with neighbours to Rio to see the famous carnival. On the 17th they heard that Singapore had fallen. Stefan insisted that he and Lotte return at once, alone, to Petropolis. Five days later, with an almost stolid calm—they had spent the intervening time in scrupulously arranging their affairs and writing farewell letters—they both took massive doses of veronal.

The news of the joint death shocked a world already in a quite sufficient state of anxiety and doubt. When André Maurois wrote of "the shame of a civilization that can create a world in which a Stefan Zweig cannot live" he spoke for more than we may easily imagine today. If the "Great European" himself had given up hope, what else was left?

Zweig's troubled, but always humane, spirit has wandered much too far out of the English-speaking world's memory. It is time, on this centenary of his birth, that we read him again.

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* This article is taken from John Fowles' Introduction to *The Royal Game*, short stories by Stefan Zweig translated by Jill Sutcliffe, which is to be published on Thursday by Jonathan Cape at £6.95.



The man who hated passports

By John Fowles

of the difficulty of divorce then, they were not able to regularise their liaison until 1919.

"In the decade before Hitler's seizure of power in Germany Stefan Zweig was one of the most widely read authors in the German language. He was certainly among the most widely translated, not only into English and French but also into Chinese, Russian, Bulgarian, Japanese, Hungarian, Italian, even Georgian." (*The Times Literary Supplement*, 1961)

Zweig, Stefan. Born Vienna, November 28, 1881. After university, travelled widely, to India. Married (1) Friderika Maria (died 1971). (2) Charlotte. Lived Switzerland in last year of First World War, subsequently in Salzburg, then England. Naturalized British subject 1940. Moved to United States (Ossining, NY), then to Brazil, August 1941.

"After I saw the country of my own language fall, and my spiritual home—Europe—destroying itself, and as I read the age of 60, it would require immense strength to reconstruct my life, and my energy is exhausted by long years of peregrination as one without a country." (Stefan Zweig, suicide note, February 23, 1942)

Works include (in Eng translation): Fiction—*Passion and Pain*, 1924; *The Invisible Collection*, 1926; *Conflict*, 1927; *Amok*, 1931; *Letter from an Unknown Woman*, 1932; *Kaleidoscope*, 1934; *The Buried Castle*, 1937; *Howards of Wey*, 1939; *The Royal Game*, 1942.

Non-fiction—*Paul Verhaeren*, 1913; *Romain Rolland*, 1921; *Voltaire* (adapt from Jonson), 1928; *Marie Antoinette*, 1933; *Erasmus of Rotterdam*, 1934; *Mary, Queen of Scotland and the Isles*, 1935; *The Right to Memory—Castello against Calvi*, 1936; *Conqueror of the Seas—The story of Magellan*, 1938; *The World of Yesterday*, autobiography, 1942.



Zweig with his first wife, Friderika, in 1933.



Sir Peter Hall

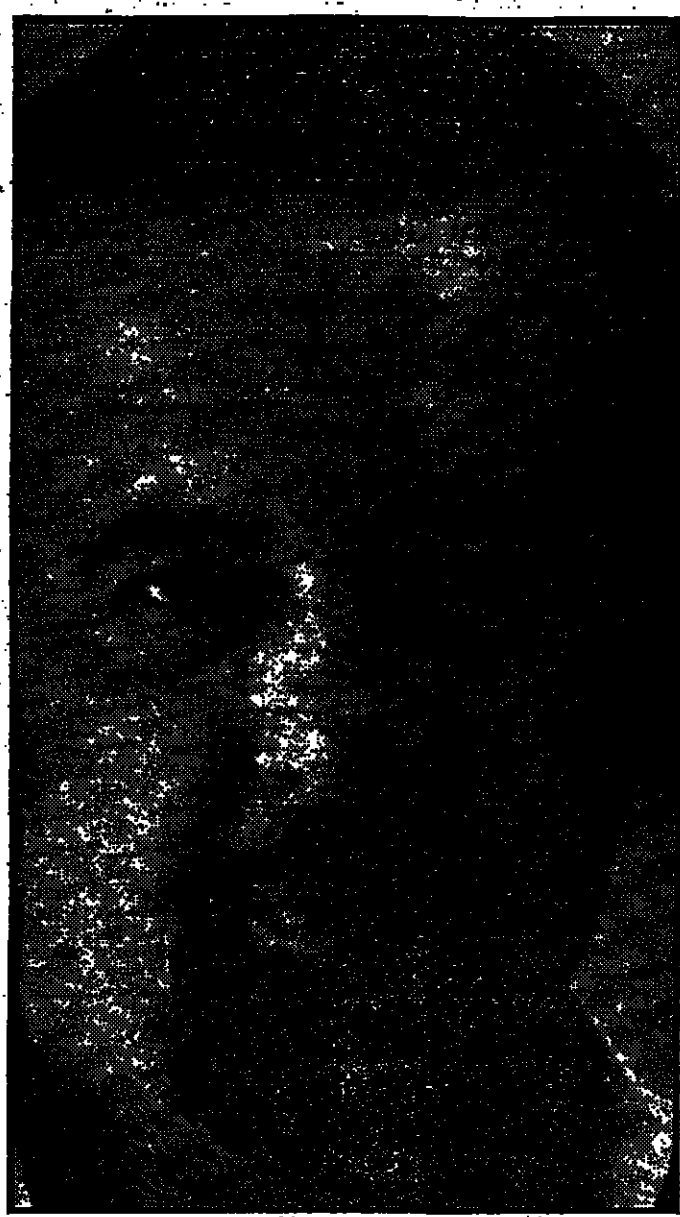
whose production of *The Oresteia* opens at the Olivier Theatre next Saturday

The previews of *The Oresteia* have begun at the National Theatre. The cast is modest — 12 actors, all of them male, but the length of the text is considerable. The curtain rises on the first of Aeschylus's three plays at five o'clock and comes down on the last about 10.00 pm. There is even a "supper interval" to give the whole evening the feel of a Wagner night at Covent Garden or the Coliseum.

The Oresteia was already a gleam in Peter Hall's eye when he was an undergraduate at Cambridge, and he almost staged it when he was at the RSC in the 1960s. "There was a group of us doing workshops with Michael St Denis, Bill Gaskill, George Devine, John Barton (who was to stage *The Greeks at the Aldwych*). Michael taught us about the use of mask, not full mask, but the half mask and the comic mask. It was during this period that I started thinking about *The Oresteia*. I came within an ace of proposing it for the '64-65 season, but then drew back because I felt we had not got the right theatre. We began at that time to draw up plans for the Barbican, and I thought that would be just the place for Aeschylus, but of course the Olivier came first."

Epidaurus was indeed the model Athens chosen when he designed the Olivier, reflecting the Greek amphitheatre in the banks of seats he constructed around an open stage. Hall himself did not go to Epidaurus until after the National was completed, although the visit obviously made an impression. His Thames-side office is currently dominated by two massive photographs of the arena there.

"It was while working with Michael that I became convinced that *The Oresteia* should be played in full mask and it is a view I've never budged from. There's a vital line in the translation Tony Harrison has made of Aeschylus for us: 'Easy, still, keep all emotion masked within.' That sums it all up. The emotions of *The Oresteia* are so violent that they must be contained within the mask. Indeed, the whole of Greek theatre is like a mask — the violence and the killing happen off stage.



Sir Peter Hall: photos of Epidaurus

"The whole journey we've made in the past four months of rehearsal in getting a full mask to speak has been a quite extraordinary one. You begin by grunting, squeaking and then eventually you get to talk. At the very start Tony Harrison works with some of the actors to find out what words could be spoken through a mask, and we ended up with a text that is highly alliterative. The bonus

of the mask is that it forces the audience to concentrate on the text. The actor becomes almost a musician and that is as it should be. Ritualistic drama like *The Oresteia* is on the brink of dance and of opera without actually being either. Probably the most controversial element of the production is the refusal to identify individual actors with the kings, princesses and gods

of Aeschylus's trilogy. Agamemnon, Cassandra, Orestes, Apollo and the rest will be represented by masks stepping out of the chorus.

"We're not being secretive about it — it's not an attempt to recreate the anonymity of the Marlowe Society. The fact is that the most important part in the plays is that of the chorus. During rehearsals the actors were all free to try any role. They talked to me privately about what they wanted to do and, even more interestingly, about what they thought their colleagues should do. We even discussed the possibility of swapping roles during the run of performances, but the sheer quantity of text to learn ruled that out. But we did end up by feeling that anonymity was in keeping with a masked production, so we've just listed the actors in alphabetical order."

The other controversial decision, apart from the use of all-male cast, which has already provoked the ire of the feminist lobby and will probably lead to an all-female *Oresteia* one of these days — is to start the plays at 5.00 pm.

"That was virtually forced on us by the lamentable state of late-night transport in London at the moment. But in a way I'm not sorry. I want *The Oresteia* to be an occasion the way that a *Tristan* or a *Meistersinger* is. And it is to Wagner and *The Ring* at Bayreuth in 1983 that Peter Hall will soon turn his hand. Is it accident or design that he takes on two colossi so close to one another? "Pure accident. If *The Oresteia* had not been delayed by financial problems there would have been a decent interval. But what I'd like next, please, is a nice small comedy, preferably in the Cottesloe, where I haven't worked yet. But I have plans for an adaptation of *Animal Farm* at the end of next year. That at least will allow us to use what we've now learnt about mask."

And will *The Oresteia* have anything in common with *The Greeks at the Aldwych* couple of years ago? "Well, there is this character called Agamemnon..."

John Higgins

New York/John Heilpern

Rolling Stones gather their faithful

I am, if you will permit me to say so, the same age as Mick Jagger — which is of little consequence — but not for the fact that when Mr Jagger and thousands of other children of the 1960s now nervously approaching 40 years of age, gathered together at Madison Square Garden for a tribal rebirth of rock 'n' roll, the occasion was bizarre. It was like an old boys' reunion when in truth no one has very much in common anymore.

What were we all doing there? No one seemed quite sure, least of all the Rolling Stones, who have been rolling along for almost 20 years and are now the first superstar middle-aged rock group. To the bewilderment of the Stones themselves, there has never been a rock 'n' roll tour like it; none richer, none so packed with the faithful.

More than two million people applied for tickets to see them in the New York area alone. The 30-city American tour will make a record \$40m in gate receipts. Astonishingly, within hours every ticket in every city had been sold, not just to the nostalgic middle-aged, but to the teenagers, a new teenybopper age of Stones fans who weren't even born when, many moons ago, Mr Jagger was called "the anti-Christ".

Those were the days. Why, you could have a slap-up meal for a few pounds and still

have change for drugs. Those were the days when, 18 years ago, I first saw the Stones, then not widely known, perform at the most unlikely of venues, an Oxford ball. As was the custom, and perhaps still is, they were the token rough trade hired to entertain us *jeunesse d'arrée* before the appearance of the dear old calypso band.

There was a moving sense of chaos. Resembling the privileged audience, the hobbled Stones turned up for what seemed like half the night, apparently unwilling, in their surly way, to play. Insults were hurled back and forth. Drunk hooray Henrys, revealing their superior breeding and class, brayed and booed. So the Stones, future symbols of adolescent rebellion, had collided with the symbols of adolescent Establishment. I like to think of it as the day the counter culture was actually born in Balliol, circa 1963.

Now, in 1981, they have temporarily left their mansions in the south of France, the Caribbean and rural England, to descend on America with their security men and financial advisers, private jets and limos, camp followers and Press, like a presidential cavalcade. "Would you let your daughter marry a Stone?" went the headline a decade and more ago. And the answer today would almost certainly be: "You bet!"

Times, you will have gathered, have changed. The night before I attended the Stones concert in Manhattan, I saw again the film of their free concert in Altamont, California — The 1969 film that records a killing during their performance. That event, however, indeed to another time and another age, difficult to believe now, for then the Stones spoke to the young, for better or worse, reflecting a confusion and violence, drug culture and drop-outs, explosions of youth and open sex. "Can't get no Satisfaction..."

At the Madison Square Garden concert, the 20,000 Stones fans ranged in age, as far as I could tell, from 12 to 45, all looking quite prosperous and middle-class, like a well-behaved preppy gathering. The Garden itself, home of world title fights, had been discreetly transformed into a miniature police state: the police patrolled every entrance and every aisle. Every one was watched or frisked going in, like taking a plane. No booze was allowed, and no blatant freaks. No one objected, happy, no doubt, to have got a ticket.

To be sure, when the lights went down, a thousand or two joined in. Yet, in semi-secrecy, furiously, not shared over generously, unusually for New York, the audience was also exclusively white. It was as if the black population had

given the thumbs down to the man and the group that took as their inspiration a hybrid of black rhythm and blues and soul music to produce their own polished version, white rock 'n' roll.

That said, the Rolling Stones still put on a tremendous show. The 80-year-old rhythm section (bassist Bill Wyman and drummer Charlie Watts are both 40) appear to watch the proceedings in a stunned way, as if attending their own funeral. Occasionally, Mr Wyman strolled around the stage like a lazy dog who has decided, for no known reason, to stretch his legs. But they are both most accomplished musicians — the driving force and anchor of a rock group that could get out of hand.

The younger anarchic Mr Ron Wood, a trifle self-conscious for my taste, does not move as well as he plays and sometimes simply falls over. Mr Keith Richards, now happily off the heroin, was a revelation. His guitar was hard-edged and fully committed, and he unleashed inspired solos. His outlaw mentality is still essentially that of rock 'n' roll. He appears to be a crazed, highly inventive, free spirit: rock 'n' roll as a way of life, as it used to be.

Mr Mick Jagger is an actor, and a great one. The financially shrewd, conservative Mick from Dartford, Kent, is above all a terrific showman. Let it be acknowledged: there are very few performers in the world who could dominate a vast audience of 20,000 as he did. Narcissist, freak, dandy, dancer, rocker, God, devil, stripper, sensualist, tease — the women in the audience are not there for the popcorn — Mr Jagger at 38 is still a kind of wild animal. His athleticism, the results of jogging several miles a day, is phenomenal. He has become the Nureyev of rock 'n' roll.

Why the new popularity of the golden oldies? Alas for the rock purists, the Stones have become respectable. They are now as harmless as the pretty balloons that descend on the happy audience at the end of their concert. With its sophisticated staging, their thrilling performance has become a show.

Though it may embarrass them to admit it, the children of the 1960s have joined the new generation in ritual worship of Mick Jagger in much the same way as their parents passed on the idol of their own generation, Sinatra. The style is very different, but the substance is the same. That's the entertainment of a special kind. And who knows, it might be a positively final appearance.

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Mick Jagger rolls away the years on the group's recent US tour

Radio/David Wade

A favourable verdict

You, the Jury may well be one of those shows which, like *Any Questions?* in its early years, is being hailed as a radio classic. It combines at least three enduring elements: topicality, audience participation of a sort and, perhaps its greatest attraction, the dramatic procedures of the courtroom.

For the defence Dr John Harard of the BMA presented a pretty straightforward case, but it was noticeable that his opponent, Larry Gostin of MIND, the mental patients' charity declined to meet him head-on. He was not so much opposing the proposition as arguing for a rather different one. With a careful eye to public mood he was suggesting that parents and doctors should not have the right without seeking counsel from others (social workers, parents of the living hand-

cent voiced no opinion. From one point of view, then, a resounding victory for the motion, yet of those who shifted, rather more had gone against in what had been an unexpectedly and mercifully a rather low key debate.

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capped), who could explain to them from experience what it was they had to decide. Yet he was caught by the conventions of debate: however reasonable his case to vote against the motion as it stood and to deny the parents and the doctors any right at all was understandably too much for most of his audience. Thus a majority found themselves voting against what was surely a rather sensible point of view. Perhaps another of *You the Jury's* attractions is its ability, as here, to offer an object lesson on how the wrong decision can be arrived at.

One might hope that similar considerations do not adversely influence decision-making where it actually counts, but one would prob-

ably be wrong. Certainly this was the impression given by Anthony Barker's *In on the Act* (Radio 4, Tuesday), which followed the passage of the Education Bill through Parliament until only last month it became the Education Act 1981 designed to improve educational opportunities for the handicapped child. Mary Warnock chaired the original inquiry and she at the end expressed much satisfaction with the process of legislation so far as this particular matter was concerned. We were left in no doubt of the extent to which an Act, in order to be truly beneficial to those for whom it was intended, needs precise wording both of the "motion" and subsequent amendments.

Radio 4's Monday Play did

well with Muriel Spark's *The Abbess of Creve* in an adaptation by Pauline Spender. The author's delicately lacerating style came over nicely in lines delivered with relish by Sian Phillips as the nun whose methods of securing elections were not unlike those of Richard Nixon at the time of Watergate. *Bookshelf* (Radio 4, Sunday) gave all its 30 minutes to an interview by Frank Delaney with Harold Macmillan. Untypically Mr Delaney sounded ill at ease, as if aware of talking to the very old. But his subject was in fine form, recalling first his early days in publishing when art always threatens to become more real than life. And what of politics and premiership? Oh that was "much the easiest job I have ever had!"

Television/Dennis Hackett

A policeman's lot is not a happy one

The police are under continuous observation and the publication of the *Scamman Report* next week will make it more rather than less intense, no doubt making more of their lean towards Gilbert's reflection that "A policeman's lot is not a happy one". Last night BBC2's *Newsweek's* was asking about The Police. We Deserve? In that careful way of theirs, *Newsweek's* conclusions are: implicit and though, rightly, there were a variety of opinions on offer about what might be done, there was no escaping the underlying conclusion that something has to be done.

It is a pity that this often excellent programme is wedged in a slot where it is exposed to a television audience from BBC1 and ITV for its approach to current affairs is admirably objective. In one sense, however, Friday night is a good time to have a realistic look at the police for it is the night when we have the improbable *Starsky and Hutch* on BBC1 and the equally improbable *Det Insp Magpie* on BBC2, alias Jill Gascoigne in *The Gentle Touch* on London Weekend.

Television, of course, contributes to our image of the police and their image of themselves. We have moved from the steadfast *Dixon of Dock Green*, to the tougher *Cars* and the rather delinquent *Sweeney*. *Newsweek* showed itself aware of this progression and the change in the police role to, as it put it: "The fire brigade of authority in place of the traditional nightwatchman". A couple of chief constables, one of them Barry Pain, of Kent, who seems to have been seconded to fatigue duty on the media beat, Professor Clutterbuck of Exeter University, Labour MP Jack Straw and less eminent contributors had their say and *Newsweek* gave a strong feel of the embattled situation of the police by reminding us of Grunwick, Brixton, the problems of race, and those many occasions when police, themselves securely employed, are now asked to keep the unemployed in order. They also used statistics sparingly but tellingly like the one that there is now a serious offence every five seconds in England and Wales.

Altogether it was a level-headed and useful contribution, produced by Todd and presented by David Jessel, to a debate that cannot be too widespread.

Mother's Arms

Theatre Upstairs

Through careless copying, I had Natasha Morgan's collective piece down in my diary as *Mother's Arms*, and it says something about the show that I was able to sit through it and find it faithfully living up to the false title.

Jenny Carey's set consists of a living room framed in lace borders, littered with nostalgic bric-a-brac, and dominated by the lower half of a giant mannequin whose skirt periodically rises to disclose a pair of French doors. Downstage sits the immobile Miss Carey, rapt in the sound of Cluck's *Orpheus* from a turned gramophone, and then turning the pages of a photograph album to escape into childhood memories.

These lead on to memories of her husband as a boy. He was beautiful, she tells her daughter (Miss Morgan), who promptly echoes the line while the sweaty, fog-puffing figure of Trevor Allan comes up behind a lace scrim. The ples, "Let me back inside" occurs throughout the performance, forever dangled by strings of platitudinous parental denial; and conveying the idea of an endless queue of women who never wanted to grow up trying to retrace their path back into the womb of the primal mother.

So much for the fallacies of pre-programmed perception. From the actual title of the piece, it seems that no

Theatre/Irving Wardle

Just a blank cheque

idea ever occurred to Miss Morgan's team, whose subject is rather the life-long sense of maternal care, government and women alike. And at once, the show begins to rearrange itself to fit in with that scheme: the sight of a cardboard infant singing a song to the rising sun, a son breaking in through the locked doors for a big-hearted Al Jolson reunion that only provokes exasperated mutters ("It isn't a hotel, you know") on the receiving end; or a puny-stricken child's voice reading from *David Copperfield* while the nightmare Murders stalk the stage.

It is no criticism of the show to describe it as a blank cheque for the spectator's imagination to fill in. But you have to come to terms with Miss Morgan's stage language, which here, even more than in her earlier production

Room, seems to derive from those half dreams that arise between sleep and waking.

As such images are almost immediately blotted out by returning consciousness, they are necessarily brief and enigmatic; and where this production succeeds is in weaving 20 fragments of dream material into an unbroken 70-minute spectacle so as to transmit the full impact of each in turn. Some are miniature comedies, such as a radio play about a man who hates radio plays and switches himself off. Others are wordless theatre poems, such as the sight of a man feeding the birds, represented by three shyly hovering light bulbs. But every one of them projected no less by music (Trevor Allan) and environmental costume than by the text, exerts the authority of dream logic.

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London Festival Ballet

The Nutcracker

Music by Tchaikovsky

Christmas Season
26 Dec 1981-13 Jan 1982

Eves 7.30, Mats 3.00

Tickets £8, £7, £6, £5, £4, £3

Good Party Reductions
O.A.P.'s seats at £4 for all-mats up to & including 2 Jan (subject to availability)

Greater London Council

Royal Festival Hall

General Manager: Richard Bayle

01-928 3191

ARTEDER'82

INTERNATIONAL GRAPHIC ARTS EXHIBITION

BILBAO 19 March-4 April 1982

INFORMATION:

FERIA INTERNACIONAL DE MUESTRAS DE BILBAO

Plaza P.M. Basleriochea, 2 - Apartado 468 - Tfno: 4415400 - BILBAO (SPAIN)

ARTEDER'82, International Exhibition of Graphic Arts is fostered by the Foral Diputación of Vizcaya and sponsored by the Department of Culture of the Basque Government. It will have three sections: Drawing, Engraving and Photography. The participants in this Exhibition will have the opportunity to opt to the prizes that ARTEDER'82 has determined in the participation's rules: 1.500.000 pts. for each section. All prizes will be awarded.

Shoparound

with Beryl Downing

Help for the hostess

As eating out becomes more and more expensive, spending money on making entertaining at home easier seems positively economical, so with the party season looming I have been testing those heated cabinet-trolleys which are supposed to prevent you from feeling like a waitress at your own party.

Until I used one, I always thought of them as wild extravaganzas, but I am now so addicted that I would probably ask Roy Plomley to take one to a desert island, so that I could keep my paw paw procyoncel for while I went for a pre-dinner swim.

That, of course, is the general idea — cook ahead, pop in the trolley and spend the pre-dinner hour making witty conversation instead of gravy. I tried both the Philips Hostess Trolley (formerly Ekco) and their newer competitor, the Salton Entertainer. Both work equally efficiently — your choice will depend mainly on appearance.

The Hostess range includes a new, glass-fronted version (H101) which blends well with modern furnishings. It also has a shelf beneath the sliding top so that you can use your own vegetable dishes — an improvement on the old version of a series of oblong Pyrex dishes which had a distinctly school-dinner air. The H101 costs about £95 from Selfridges.

Hostess trolleys are in "wood-grain finish" which means they aren't wood at all, but the Salton trolley has a series of dark, in-wood veneers, which do have a slightly better quality effect. There is a centre cabinet with a glass front, a lower shelf and a drawer under the glass top which holds three vegetable dishes. The light teak veneer costs about £135.

the very dark ash £150 from Selfridges and John Lewis.

I have two complaints about these trolleys. One, that most pictures of them show the bottom shelf occupied by fruit and cold sandwiches, so preventing access from the centre cabinet radiates downwards and would probably melt the top of jellies or marinades, for instance. Better to use the shelf for empty dishes or coffee cups.

The second most is that no one seems to make a trolley that really goes well with antique furniture. The dreaded "teak effect" does not blend well with mahogany or oak.

Another idea you might consider for party food is a deep fat fryer with a filter. I'm not suggesting you give your guests chips with everything, but even deep-fried mushrooms or cheese cigarettes make the kitchen smell like a transport café and the filter tops do reduce the fumes considerably.

I tried both the Russell Hobbs model 5907 and the Tefal Superfryer Deluxe. Both had timers which ensured good results. The Russell Hobbs holds 2½ litres of oil and takes 12½ minutes to fry a 12-inch fish. The Tefal Superfryer Deluxe also holds 2½ litres of oil and cooks 1 kilo of food at a time. It has a handle on the outside which raises the basket inside without removing the lid, which I found an advantage as it does not allow any fumes to escape even after the food is cooked. It comes in a metallic brown finish and costs £38.95 from branches of Currys.

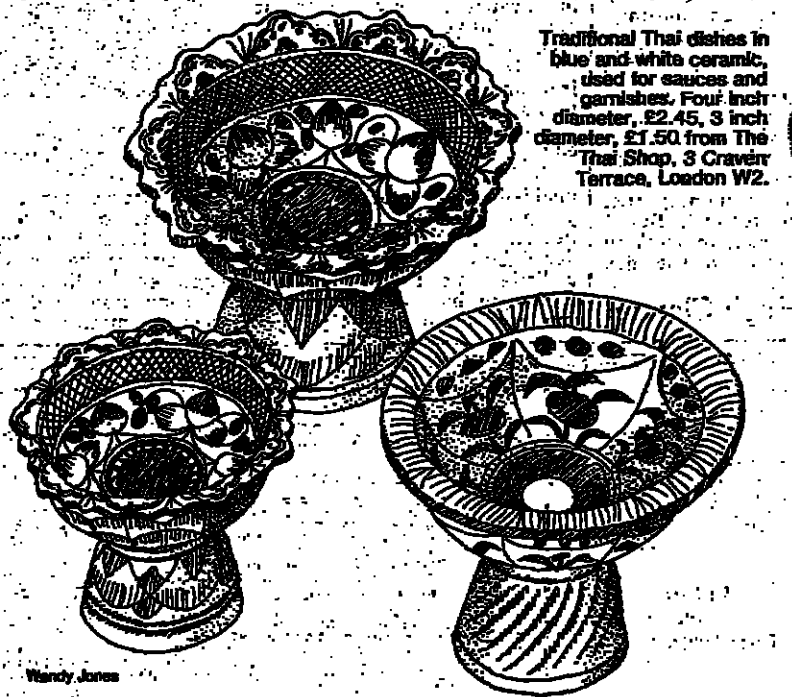
For those whose taste is for the

exotic I recommend a visit to The Thai Shop, 3 Craven Terrace, London W2. When it first opened some months ago, I did not feel I could suggest a trip to Bayswater because, although the amazing range of unusual fresh fruits and vegetables and canned Thai delicacies was tempting to any experimental cook, there was nothing to explain to the uninitiated what should be done with them.

The Thai community in London, though, was delighted that Vetcharin Bhummichit had noticed the gap in the oriental food market in London and had started to import their favourite foods, sent direct from Bangkok every weekend. They came to his shop crying with nostalgia as the scents of home wafted into Craven Terrace.

But last week the aromatic specialities found a wider audience when Jennifer Brennan demonstrated recipes from her new book *Thai Cooking* (Jill Norman & Robhouse, £7.95). Not only does it include a selection of fascinating recipes, but also a vocabulary of Thai culinary words and a glossary identifying the main ingredients of the cuisine.

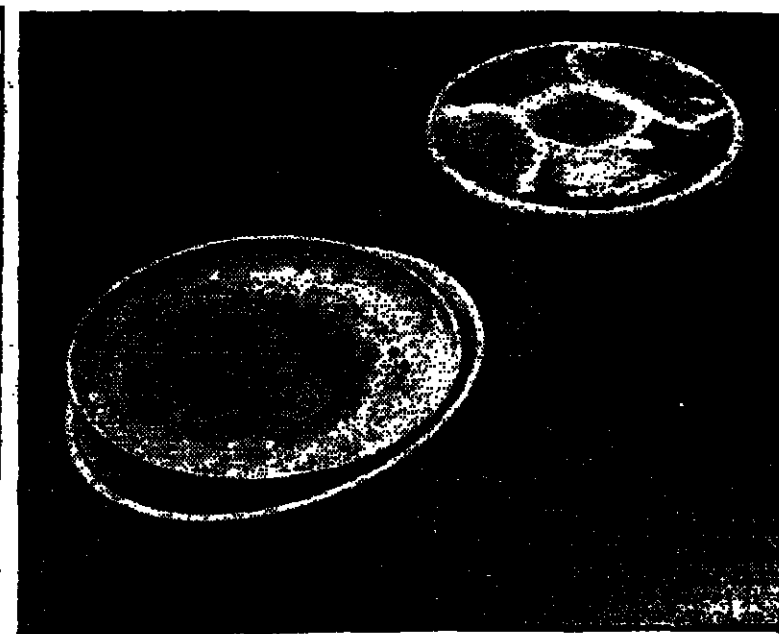
Even if you are not tempted to astonish your friends with a change from Chinese takeaway, you may care to search for unusual presents among The Thai Shop's collection of cooking equipment, wooden dishes, embroidered cushions, and white serving dishes and giant Al Bafa pottery storage jars. The price range is from £1 to £50. Go on Fridays and Saturdays when the fresh vegetables have just been flown in and you will feel as if you are shopping in an Eastern bazaar.



Traditional Thai dishes in blue and white ceramic, used for sauces and garnishes. Four inch diameter, £2.45, 3 inch diameter, £1.50 from The Thai Shop, 3 Craven Terrace, London W2.

Deep fryer with temperature control and filtered lid. Tefal's Superfryer Deluxe comes in stainless steel or metallic brown finish at £38.95 from branches of Currys.

The Salton Entertainer has a heated cabinet and drawer with glass top — both sections can be controlled independently. In light or dark wood veneer, £135 and £150, from Selfridges and John Lewis.



Semi-porcelain box with recessed lid in Micro-crystalline honey-coloured glaze, £20, mushroom box with water green glazes, £20, both by Stephen Jones at Charles de Temple.

Magic and mirrors

If talent were tangible you would probably find it nesting in one of Charles de Temple's showcases. Every year he manages to mount a Christmas craftwork exhibition of outstanding quality, and this year's theme, Magic, Mirrors and Masks gives plenty of scope to the 23 craftsmen taking part.

It also stimulates the imagination of the viewer. Masks and mirrors there are literally — Bob Leven's dramatic leather masks, Steve Povey's sycamore framed Infinity Mirror with rods of lights that seem to stretch back into the wall of the house next door but one. The perfect Looking Glass for Alice.

And Magic? If you interpret the word as an adult, there is plenty of illusion and fantasy. But to understand real magic you have to look with a child's acceptance of the unpredictable and then you cannot help but marvel at Stephen Jones's iridescent ceramics.

He has revived a technique called micro-crystalline glazing, which he discovered in Minton's museum when he was studying in the Potteries. It had a short vogue around 1865 when Bernard Moore in Stoke was experimenting with it about the same time that Massier and Royal Copenhagen were producing similar glazes. They all claimed to be the first and there is very little evidence to settle the matter one way or

another, but nobody persevered very long, for the technique was so complex and the failure rate too high for economic production.

Stephen Jones found a recipe in an old American Ceramics Journal and began to experiment. The original nineteenth century crystalline glaze was an accident — the result of overfiring which produced the crystals — but Stephen persevered and after 150 test firings he began to be able to control the effects, mixing colours with four or five oxides to achieve deep Ming blues, pale turquoise, silver-greens.

The shapes made by the crystals in firing are like frozen pools touched by the tip of an artist's brush to make clouds and stars and needles of colour. Some are set at an angle into perfectly oval bases — an industrial technique which Stephen learned in the Potteries and adapted to his hand-crafted pieces.

Prices are not high for such an unusual and difficult technique. Boxes range from £18 to £22 in porcelain, £28 in silver plated copper, ring stands and powder bowls are £30. There is a good selection at Charles de Temple's gallery, 52 Jermy Street, London SW1, telephone 01-499 3639 and, if you wish to discuss a special commission with Stephen Jones, there is a number of his Sussex studio is 0293-23472.

Dates to keep

For your diary — some exhibition dates in London and Manchester to provide you with ideas for original presents:

Rocks and Clocks at H. Knowles-Brown, 27 Hampstead High Street, London NW3. An exhibition of gemstone jewelry by 22 designers, prices from £17.50 and a collection of fascinating clocks, including Swiss carriage clocks by Matthew Norman and skeleton clocks by Dent who designed Big Ben. Prices from £165. Open until December 24, 9 to 5.30pm, Saturdays until 1pm. Closed Mondays.

Wood and Silver at the British Crafts Centre, 43 Earls Lane, London WC2. The work of 30 craftsmen includes painted or stained figures and toys for adults and children, wooden boxes, platters and bowls, silver spoons, bowls, knives and jewelry. Prices from £1.80. Open Tuesday to Friday 10am to 5.30pm, Saturday 10am to 4pm in November, Monday to Saturday 10am to 5.30pm in December. Closes December 24.

Jewels by objects by Alistair McCullum at Cobra & Bellamy, 149 Sloane Street, London SW1. An award-winning artist whose work fits in with the fashion for things Japanese. He uses a 300-year-old Japanese metalworking technique called mokume-gane, a copper with fine silver and his shapes are in the classically simple Oriental tradition. Earrings from £65.



Animated painted wood carving by Frank Nelson — turn the handle and the figure's head goes into the lion's cheese — £185, limited edition of 25 at the Red Rose Guild exhibition in Stockport, December 5 to 19.

brooches £175, boxes £250, bowls, £450. Open Monday to Saturday 10.30am to 6pm, November 25 to December 5.

Annual Red Rose Guild of Designer Craftsmen at the Stockport Memorial Art Gallery, Wellington Road South and Greek Street, Stockport, near Manchester. Amusing and inventive ceramics and carvings and a wide variety of glass, textiles, silverware, wood and furniture. Prices from £5 to £300. Open Monday to Friday 12 to 5pm, Thursdays until 8pm, Saturdays 10am to 4pm. December 5 to 19.

Soft as a second skin

Business or pleasure is not a choice Kate Tabb ever has to make. She began designing clothes because she gobbled up evening classes with the compulsion of a dieter in a doughnut factory and once she had found the perfect medium for her talent her pleasure became her business — designing in suede and leather under her business name Kate Estermay, a combination of her two first names, Katrina and Esther.

Using the finest sheepskins and picking in a selection of beautiful colours, she makes a range of styles from classically tailored suits and appliqued tabards, to dresses as soft as if they were made in silk and evening jackets in gold leather. One of the greatest features in her cap is that she is now selling to Italy, home of beautiful leather fashions.

Everything is made to measure — you can discuss your chosen style and give your measurements by telephone, and the results are as perfect as you would expect from two skilled Spanish craftsmen who make them to Kate's instructions. Delivery is from four to eight weeks, according to the availability of the skins you select.

You cannot expect such workmanship at mass-produced prices, but garments of similar quality and style would certainly cost

considerably more in a shop. The most understated styles are a snake-trimmed suede suit called Garda at £225 and a soft two-piece with punched edging, Bovary at £245.

There are accessories, too — a pair of tartan hair at £35, belts from £20, decorative suede flowers — roses £5 each, carnations £5 and orchids, £6.60, which are elegantly boxed and would make attractive Christmas presents (add 50p for p & p) — and a handsome cat's foot in suede lined with tartan wool (£120) comes, if you wish, with a length of matching tartan 58, so that you can make a skirt to match.

For the party season what could be more glamorous than the shimmering gold tops illustrated, worn with black silk trousers (available from Pettwoods, Bond Street, W1, £20). The leather is specially treated with a film of gold and remains supple and soft to wear. But it is a luxury material, so don't be careless with your glass of red wine, spots might not come out. Suede garments, though, come to you with instructions for their care (did you know? Fuller's Earth and perseverance will remove grease from suede) so that you can enjoy this luxury without worry. For more details of Kate Estermay's range, telephone 01-278 6783.

Getting lit up

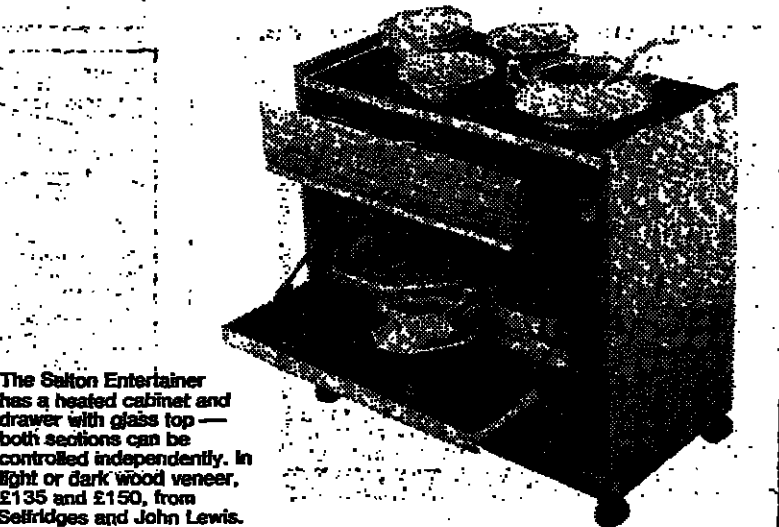
You can get lit up for Christmas this year for much the same price as a bottle of Scotch but with a rather more lasting effect. A sculpted paper lantern will not only be fun to make but will add to the festive atmosphere for as long as you choose to hang it.

The kit is made by Ken Carr, a paper-sculptor who has for many years created spectacular window displays in London, New York and Toronto, and has designed sets for television and for photographic advertising. He has worked exclusively in paper for the past 15 years and exhibits his work have included three dimensional paper pictures under

glass — an example of his attempts to bring paper sculpture into the real world.

On a more practical level he has created an accurate paper model of Canterbury Cathedral which would be an absorbing kit for a budding teenage architect or historian. It costs £3.95 (75p packaged) from Bond Street, Wokingham, Berkshire. (Telephone 0734-789372).

The lantern, 19 inches high, takes up to a 100 watt bulb (clear bulbs are best as they give more sparkle) and is available for £5.95 including postage from Ken Carr, Crossroads School House, near Ormskirk, East Lothian, Scotland, telephone Humble 223.



Teleview/Elkan Allan The independent explosion

Mike Woollier is a tall, distinguished producer who has, in his time, created and commissioned some of the better documentaries on our screens, in a career that went from Granada to the BBC to Thames. As chairman of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, he was to be seen escorting Princess Anne to the podium where she handed out the British Academy's Oscars.

Now he has stepped outside the recognized television establishment to head the most impressive manifestation of the new Third Force, as one might regard the independent production companies.

Goldcrest Television Productions have already committed £5m to his judgment and within a year will have up to another £5m available for production. Goldcrest, an offshoot of Pearson Longman, who own the *Financial Times*, Penguin Books and the Longman book company, see the project as an alternative to winning the breakfast-time franchise, in which contest they backed Chris Chataway's AM Television. Pearson Longman, through Goldcrest Films, are already financing movie production, and have had two winners, *Breaking Glass* and *Chariots of Fire*. Those profits are now riding on Gandhi, Sir Richard Attenborough's \$22m epic.

Goldcrest Television are one of 25 companies formed in London to take advantage

of what they hope will be a boom in independent production. There are another 25 or so outside the capital, and the Independent Programme Producers' Association, who are negotiating basic terms for them all, have more than 250 individual members.

Through few of them are even paying for their office space yet, they see a rosy future in video, cable and satellite television. Channel Four, now less than a year away but only just beginning to commission a few programmes, has an obligation under the Broadcasting Act 1980 "to secure that... a substantial proportion of programmes" are supplied other than by ITV programme contractors. Nobody quite knows yet what "substantial" means, but Jeremy Isaacs is talking about 15 per cent eventually.

But producers cannot live on expectations, and while they are waiting for the fall-out from what has been called the production explosion, they are making commercials, doing freelance stints with the BBC and ITV, and generally diverting their energies from the potentially lucrative new markets. There may be jam tomorrow, but today there is not enough bread.

It is in filling this economic gap that Woollier has been made a deal with several of the industry's best producers,

to pay them at least £20,000 a year and provide them with a comfortable office in a period house near the BBC Television Centre. In return, they develop agreed ideas. Eventually they will receive 40 per cent of all profits, after costs, but they have to split these with artists and writers, if any. However, part of the Goldcrest deal is that producers will always get 15 per cent, with the financiers making up the rest if necessary. Goldcrest, of course, keep 60 per cent for their hospitality and finance.

First to take advantage of this arrangement are Barry Hanson, *The Naked Civil Servant*, *The Long Good Friday*, Paul Knight (*Black Beauty*, *Dick Turpin*) and John Gao, who has only recently stepped being head of BBC TV's current affairs, where he was considered a contender for one of the corporation's top jobs.

Hanson is working on two made-for-TV movies, *Children Crossing*, from a novel by Verity Bargate, and *Killing Time*, Sandy Fawkes's account of crossing America with a murderous psychopath. Knight has passed from Dick Turpin to that other lovable rogue, Robin Hood, no stranger to the television screen. And Gao is executive producer on *The Body Machine*, a tour around your insides conducted by Professor Christian Barnard.

On a slightly different arrangement, because he already has his own office,

David Putnam, the *Wonder-kind* of the new British film industry, has put Jack Rosenthal to work on script-writing a science series, *First Love*, with Laurie Lee writing the first script. He is also developing the successful if esoteric book about the changing of personnel of groups, *Rock Family Trees*, and a new documentary series. Another major series Woollier is masterminding grew out of Goldcrest's experiences with *Gandhi*, and is a steamy drama, based on *The Far Pavlova*, a best seller by M. M. Kay, a war of eastern *Gone With the Wind*.

However, first to reach fruition is a more modest effort, a video cassette called *You Too Can Do the Cube*, based on a Penguin book. Woollier is optimistic that there will still be enough mileage left in the craze to sell enough visual solutions to it. I particularly welcome the use he has made of the video-player, capacity to stop and start, so that the movements can be studied closely.

Is there a danger that the independent production sector is growing faster than its market? Woollier is sanguine. "I think we are in for a honeymoon period," he says. "There appears to be a greater demand than anyone can satisfy for a while. After that? Nobody knows." But in a period when other industries are shrinking, it is heartening to be able to report on one that is not only expanding, but exploding.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole Quick meals for commuters

For four years before she joined *The Times* to edit Shoparound, Beryl Downing was the Quick Cook of the *London Evening News*. This week Penguin are publishing her book *Quick Cook* (paperback, £1.50) a collection of recipes which take 30 minutes or less to prepare. As it is more useful to try a few dishes than to read a critic's review, this week's recipes are from Quick Cook. There have been occasions when I have changed my mind about mentioning a book after testing and tasting its contents. Not this time, as you see.

"This is not an I-hate-cooking book," she explains. "It's an I-like-it-but-I-haven't-time book." It began as a "daisy" recipe service, specialising in quick, simple, old, young, men, women, all travel at least half an hour a day to their offices. After squeezing themselves home in a tube they do not want to spend hours concocting an evening meal. But they do not want to get into a chop-and-vegetables routine either. And that applies quite often to people whose work is their home, as well as to those for whom home is too much like hard work.

Fresh food is Beryl Downing's rule. "So I don't propose to tell you how to improve the shining can by adding a dash of Australian sherry." She is as good as her word, and in addition to the conventional

chapter headings includes groups of recipes for slimmers and those on low-cholesterol diets.

Cream cheese and olive tartlets
Makes eight
120g (4oz) plain flour
30g (1oz) lard
30g (1oz) butter
Salt and black pepper
1 egg
175g (6oz) cream cheese
30g (1oz) pimiento-stuffed olives
30g (1oz) Cheddar cheese

Rub the flour, fats and a small pinch of salt together. Add 1½ tablespoons of cold water and mix to a pliable dough. Roll out thinly on a floured surface and cut eight rounds with an 8cm (3in) cutter. Grease eight patty tins and line with the pastry. Beat the egg and add gradually to the cream cheese, beating until smooth and thick. Do not make too runny. Chop the olives and stir in with salt and black pepper to taste. Divide the mixture between the pastry cases. Grate the Cheddar cheese, sprinkle over the tartlets, and bake at the top of the oven for 15 minutes at 200°C/400°F, gas mark 6, until risen and golden. Serve hot. Time 30 minutes.

For the following dish, says Beryl: "You use any thick white fish fillets, but if

you have a fresh-fish shop near, try to get monkfish. It has a slightly chewy texture, which makes it suitable as a lobster substitute."

Fish terrine
Serves four
85g (3 oz) butter
55g (2 oz) flour
300ml (¼ pint) fish stock, or water
300ml (¼ pint) milk
2 to 3 tablespoons dry white wine
1 to 1½ teaspoons dried tarragon
¼ teaspoon ready-made English mustard
2 tablespoons grated Emmenthal cheese
450g (1 lb) monkfish, or solid white fish
1 tablespoon brandy
Melt 55g (2 oz) of the butter in a small saucepan and sprinkle in the flour. Stir over a gentle heat for a minute. Gradually stir in the fish stock (or water) and milk, stirring constantly to make a smooth, thick sauce. Stir in the wine, tarragon and mustard. Grate the cheese. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in a tablespoon of cheese.
Melt the remaining butter in a large frying pan, cut the fish into 2.5 cm (1 in) chunks, and sauté in the butter for about 5 minutes, until cooked through. Swirl in brandy.
Heat the grill. Stir the fish and juices into the sauce and

spoon into four scallop shells or oven-proof individual dishes. Sprinkle the remaining cheese over and place under a hot grill until the cheese melts. Time 25 minutes.

"Talking of flavour," says Beryl, "fish recipes involving a sauce are greatly improved if home-made fish stock is used, although this is usually practicable only if you have a local wet fish shop."

Caraway pork
Serves two
30g (1 oz) butter
55g (2 oz) mushrooms
¼ teaspoon caraway seeds
170g (6 oz) lean pork steak or fillet
1 tablespoon flour
Salt and pepper
½ pint chicken stock or 1 chicken stock cube
2 tablespoons single cream

Boil 300ml (¼ pint) water if using a stock cube. Heat the butter in a saucepan. Mear while, wipe and slice the mushrooms, add to the pan and cook with the caraway seeds for 2 minutes.
Cut the pork into 2.5cm (1 in) strips and toss in the flour mixed with a little salt and pepper. Add to the pan and fry quickly on all sides for a minute. Add the chicken stock, or crumble in the stock cube and add the boiling water. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in the cream. Time 30 minutes.

A black and white photograph of a cat sitting on a large, textured rock. The cat is looking towards the camera. The background is dark and indistinct. The image is framed by a thick black border.

5. Two copies of the card must accompany each entry.

6. No employees of Times Newspapers Ltd. or their families may enter the competition.

7. The Judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. Entries should be sent, clearly stating entrant's name and address, in addition to life details set out in the rules, to: The Times, (Dept CCG), 12 Colney Street, London WC9E 9YT.

charity benefiting from the sale of the card considered by the judges to be the best of the three winning entries, regardless of its price range.

The Charity Christmas Card Council (49 Lamb's Conduit Street, WC1; tel 01-242 0546) issues a list of 90 registered charities, with their own Christmas cards (send sae).

I could ask for *The Gypsy Princess*, the Kálmán operetta

Wells last summer? Sadly that version went unrecorded, but

rita with Annaliese Rothenberger and Nicola Gedda for a late-night armchair treat. Or else could somebody find me the disc of Gershwin songs by Barbara Hendricks with the virtuosic pianist sisters, Katia and Marielle Labeque, to run into the small hours?

■ **Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake** (Decca 102B 168-170) three discs). Debussy: **Famous Orchestral works** (Philips 6768 284, three discs). Sibelius:

Symphonies etc./Kajanus (182740 245, four discs). Beethoven: Violin Concerto/Perlman (HMV ASD 4059). Poulenc: *Les Biches*/Prêtre (HMV ASD 4067). Spanish music/Los Romeros (Philips 9500-296). José Carreras album (Philips 5768 283, four discs). Kálmán: *Die Csárdasfürstin* (Electra 1C157-290667, two discs). Gershwin: Songs/Hendricks (Philips 9500 987).



two-handle, olive or black only (£9.99).

- Sari's large cylinder shoulder bags £5.99, small £3.99; from Debenhams (Oxford Street), Frasers in Edinburgh; branches of Dingles in the south wear leading branches of John Menzies.
- Summeristers' black bag £9.99, brown bag £19.95; from Selfridges.
- Rolls-Royce cases, £3.80 from Guch, 27 Old Bond Street, W.1.
- Canvas bag, navy or natural,

Edward Roland, 215 Putney
Bridge Road, London SW15

with the real thing. Unless you like surprises, drop hints as to what you want for Christmas this year. "I won't have a thing to wear if your smart friends are coming", is a reliable gambit.

There are some worthwhile chain store gifts to be bought quickly because they represent such good value that they will surely disappear nearer the

some maidenhair ferns potted in hanging baskets which cost £3.99 and would give great pleasure to anyone without a garden.

lipsticks (£2.50) which would amuse adults as well as teenagers. At the same price, there is a set of cosmetic brushes in a tidy tube.

Also welcome would be Crabtree & Evelyn soap dishes in Mason's Ironstone patterns with matching soaps (£3.75). From chemists and the Market Shop, Covent Garden.

Diana Patt

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Business News

THE TIMES Saturday November 21 1981

No support for liquidity pressure optimists

By John Whitmore

The monetary authorities pressed ahead with their funding programme yesterday with the City still looking to further cuts in interest rates for the future.

There was fresh demand for the new party-paid Treasury 14 per cent 1986 stock, about half of which was probably sold to initial applicants on Thursday morning. The Government Broker supplied stock at up to 540, and the feeling in the market was that any fresh bullishness next week would quickly exhaust remaining supplies.

The Bank of England announced a new mini tap, amounting in all to £750m. The new stocks are further £250m tranches of Treasury 13 per cent 1990, Treasury 12 per cent 1985 and Treasury 13 per cent 2004-08.

How soon base rates can be cut remains an open question after the Bank's moves on Monday to slow the decline in interest rates.

Although optimists expect some easing next week of the liquidity pressures that have kept very short term interest rates at about 16 per cent or higher recently, the average rate of discount at which three-month Treasury bills were allotted at yesterday's weekly tender was only fractionally lower at 13.81 per cent.

However, the Treasury did announce late yesterday that the rate of interest paid on certificates of deposit was being cut from 15 to 14 per cent from Monday.

Financial markets received some encouragement from the October trade figures, though enthusiasm waned slightly as it became clear that the export figures were surrounded by more than usual uncertainty. The pound, initially helped by the figures, finally lost ground to a generally strong dollar, finishing 1½ cents lower at \$1.8990.

Gilt, however, often recovered earlier falls to close on a firm note. The 1986 gilt which had been little changed ahead of the trade figures, closed strongly. The Financial Times index finished 8.5 points higher at 520.2.

Imports rise clouds trade figures

By Melvyn Westlake

Britain had a surplus of £110m last month in its visible goods trade with the rest of the world. This is substantially more than the September surplus of £13m, but represents a big reduction on the huge surpluses that were piled up at the beginning of the year when national output was still in steep decline.

Treasury Ministers are said to be very satisfied at the apparent strength of Britain's export performance in the face of contracting foreign markets and our relative lack of price competitiveness.

However, there are worrying signs of a rapid expansion in the demand for imports. The overall position is still obscured by the absence of most trade statistics for the period March to August, when the civil servants' dispute prevented information being collected.

The best guess is that Britain will have a rather bigger surplus this year than suggested by Treasury forecasts. These predicted a visible and invisible trade surplus of £1,000m in 1981, and a combined surplus of £1,200m.

The combined surplus on visible and invisible trade was £316m in October, compared with £147m in September. Both figures were a long way below the average monthly surplus of £360m in the first two months of the year before the Civil Service dispute started.

There is little doubt that the trade position has deteriorated in the intervening months. This was expected by the Treasury at the time of the Budget. It was then predicted that the surplus would evaporate altogether in the first half of 1982. But Ministers are drawing satisfaction from the fact that while the oil trade surplus slumped last month, the non-oil account showed an improvement.

Both exports and imports experienced an overall fall, but imports fell more in value terms.

However, if the underlying trends are examined, a more disquieting picture emerges. In volume terms, imports now seem to be rising very much faster than exports, although from a much lower base. The domestic recession led to a bigger fall last year in imports than in exports, as heavy de-stocking throughout the economy depressed the demand for foreign goods of all kinds.

This position is now being reversed. The volume of exports rose about 5 per cent between January-February and September-October, while the volume of imports jumped by over 21 per cent during the same period. This excludes trade in oil and erratic items such as ships, precious stones and North Sea oil installations.

The rise in imports probably reflects the recent slight improvement in the level of economic activity. A main element is likely to be the rebuilding of company stocks after the big reduction in stocks during 1980 and the first half of 1981.

There has been a large increase in imports of intermediate and capital goods, which have risen by 25 per cent and 29 per cent respectively since the early months of the year. Car imports have shown a much smaller rise, but other consumer goods are being purchased abroad again in bigger volume.

Much of the rise in imports represents restocking, there must be some hope that when stocks reach normal levels, the volume of overseas purchases will stabilize.

It must, however, be worrying that imports have grown so quickly when the economy has shown such a small upturn. This raises the possibility that a much bigger recovery in domestic output would bring with it a surge in goods from abroad.

The latest figures also show a deterioration in Britain's terms of trade—that is the amount of exports that have to be sold to pay for a given quantity of imports.

Hongkong Bank denies breaking guidelines

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation has rejected the claim that it broke the Bank of England's guidelines on bank takeovers by launching its bid for Royal Bank of Scotland.

Mr Peter Hammond, deputy chairman, said in Hongkong yesterday: "Bank of England guidelines on banking mergers and acquisitions are not applicable to the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation bid for Royal Bank of Scotland. The guidelines, drawn up in 1972, arose in the context of accepting houses in the United Kingdom and not banks."

Mr Hammond added that when the Hongkong Bank consulted the Bank of England before its bid, the authorities said they did not like to see a contested bid as Standard Chartered Bank had already made an offer for Royal Bank.

Hongkong Bank's claim is likely to add fuel to the controversy over its bid and further displease the Bank of England, which is thought to disagree with this view.

The guidelines lay down that banks will consult the Bank of England before any negotiations and accept the Bank of England's ruling in each case.

The Bank of England seems to have become increasingly isolated in its attempts to prevent the Hongkong Bank taking over Royal Bank. The Monopolies Commission is expected to report soon on the two bids for Royal Bank, whose shares have risen 24p to 182p in the last two days on hopes that the Hongkong Bank will be allowed to proceed.

RTZ goes for the cement industry

By Paul Maudmont

Rio Tinto-Zinc, the international mining and industrial group, staged a seven minute "dawn raid" on the London stockmarket yesterday. It was a prelude to an attempt to break into the United Kingdom cement industry by taking over the third and fourth largest British companies in the field to create a new one that would give RTZ an immediate 20 per cent market share.

Its first target, however, Thomas W. Ward, the Sheffield-based cement manufacturer, says it will strongly resist RTZ's move. Ward itself tried to take over RTZ's second target Tunnel Holdings, earlier this year, but was thwarted by RTZ's intervention.

Yesterday, RTZ under the chairmanship of Sir Anthony Tuke, bought 8.75 million Ward shares at 190 pence each in its raid taking its stake to 14.9 per cent. It then made a full offer for the remaining shares at 190p cash or for its 9.5 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock, which values Ward at about 196p per share. The full offer values Ward at £114.2m.

RTZ says that if the offer for Ward is successful, it will bid for the remaining share capital of Tunnel Holdings. After last summer's bitterly-contested takeover bid Ward owns 39 per cent of the ordinary shares of Tunnel Holdings, and RTZ 9.35 per cent.

RTZ intimated yesterday that it would pay at least 450p each for the outstanding Tunnel shares. This is the highest price it paid for them in the market earlier in the year.

Sir Alistair Frame, RTZ chief executive, said the group wanted to expand its industrial operations in the United Kingdom. He believed considerable benefits would follow from combining Ward and

Dawn raid on Ward and Tunnel



Sir Anthony Tuke: RTZ Chairman

Sir Alistair Frame: Chief Executive

Tunnel to create the second largest cement operation in the country after Blue Circle Industries. RTZ could also provide the financial muscle and opportunity for overseas expansion, which both Ward and Tunnel would find a financial strain.

Mr Peter Frost, Thomas Ward chairman, said RTZ's offer was inadequate and unacceptable in every respect. "The offer is not welcome and will not be recommended to Ward shareholders," he said.

Ward considers its shareholding in Tunnel alone is worth approximately £50m which is approaching half the total value placed on Ward by RTZ.

Tunnel will not be making any statement before a board meeting next Thursday after which it will announce its latest half year results.

Mr Basil Mawdsley, finance director, said RTZ's moves were one of two inevitable options in the wake of Ward's unsuccessful bid.

Sir Alistair said that the two companies had had discussions about an agreed bid for the past two years, but Tunnel had made it clear it would like to remain independent. RTZ had considered a counter-bid to Ward's offer in the summer, but had been constrained for lack of time. RTZ bought its stake in Tunnel "to stabilize the situation," Sir Alistair said.

Subsequent talks with Mr Peter Frost about an agreed merger involving all three companies, "didn't get very far," he added.

Reportedly, a personality clash between Mr Frost and Mr Birkin was one of the reasons why Tunnel resisted Ward's advances, but Sir Alistair said this was more a clash of business philosophies with Mr Frost wanting to concentrate on cement and Mr Birkin anxious to diversify.

Rumours of RTZ's prospective dawn raid yesterday boosted the share prices of both Ward and Tunnel on Thursday afternoon. RTZ shares closed 1p down on the previous day's close at 451p. Tunnel was 30p up at 490p and Ward 40p up at 184p.

More ships head for scrap heap

By Michael Bailey
Shipping Correspondent

Large numbers of old ships are expected to be scrapped as a result of tough safety measures approved by world shipping states meeting at the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization in London this week.

Ships are expected to be particularly affected and as a result, tanker freight rates, still at slump levels that fail to cover operating costs, could rise markedly over the next year or two.

The new measures come on top of earlier regulations which came into effect this year, and could mean that half the world's medium-sized tankers lose their viability, resulting in the withdrawal of around 25m tons according to one assessment.

Another effect of the measures could be to make tankers over 300,000 tons less attractive, because the new measures will cost relatively more to impose in them than in smaller ships. Mr Ronald Ilian, head of British Petroleum's tanker operation, said:

British Steel agrees new peace talks with union

By Donald Macintyre,
Labour Correspondent

The British Steel Corporation is to hold fresh talks with the industry's biggest union on Monday in an attempt to defuse the continuing conflict over jobs, wages and working hours.

Leaders of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation yesterday endorsed the union's earlier ban on local productivity based pay negotiations despite an appeal on Thursday by Mr Peter Broxham, BSC's industrial relations director, to lift it.

The ISTC executive agreed yesterday to send out renewed instructions to branches not to cooperate in the local talks which Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of BSC, has said are the only way of finding more money for wages this year.

Mr MacGregor told BSC's 108,000 employees in September that there would be no national increase this year and that any additional cash would have to be on a "something for something" basis.

The executive agreed yesterday to further talks with Mr Broxham and his colleagues before deciding on the next step in which the ISTC could involve a ban on the 20 to 16 hours of overtime per week which it claims its members are currently working.

The union leaders are likely to press BSC executives particularly hard on the 39-hour week, due to come into force, under the inquiry findings at the end of the 13-week steel strike last year, from January 1982. The union is trying to persuade BSC to modify its plan for an overall reduction in the labour force to about 90,000.

EEC offer on textiles

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, Nov 20

An anti-surge mechanism to prevent sudden increases in imports and a growth rate of about 1 per cent were offered by the EEC today in negotiations in Geneva for a renewal of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement. "Dominant" exporters must expect less growth and flexibility than small suppliers and newcomers. Details were given by Herr

Horst-Gunter Krenzel, the EEC delegate, who underlined that the Community proposals on the social purpose of the arrangement, its duration and the problems of fraud, differential treatment and access to markets were largely covered in the draft protocol of extension tabled by the United States to be presented to the conference next Thursday.

No rapid upturn for Bonn

Bonn, Nov 20.—There are no signs of a speedy and lasting revival of the West German economy, Bonn Government experts said yesterday. Demand and production are likely to stagnate at the levels of early summer 1980 when the economic downturn set in.

The group, comprising four independent professors of economics, projected a real growth in West Germany's Gross National Product (g.n.p.) of only 0.5 per cent for 1982 following a 0.5 per cent decline of g.n.p. this year. In 1980, the real g.n.p. expanded to 1.8 per cent.

In their annual assessment of the state of the West German economy and its outlook submitted to the government, the four-man group projected a 1982 average inflation rate of 5.5 per cent down only slightly from a 6 per cent average in 1981.

The group—sometimes known as the Wise Men—used to have five members but one resigned in the summer.

The experts saw employment declining and predicted that the number of jobless would rise to an average 1.65 million in 1982, up from 1.25 million in 1981.

They projected a contraction in the nation's payments deficit on current account to about 15,000m Deutsche marks next year from 25,000m in 1980, having reached 30,000m in 1980.

The experts said, however, that despite the disappointing performance of the West German economy, there were a few signs brightening the generally gloomy picture.

In this context, they mentioned the contracting trend in the current account deficit since the second quarter of 1981, rising confidence abroad in the Deutsche mark which had brought about a reversal in the mark's decline since August and an upturn in West German

exports because of better terms of trade.

Stressing that a previously predicted recovery of the West German economy in the second half of 1981 had failed to materialize mainly due to worldwide economic stagnation, the experts said their expectation for a gradual improvement is based on an expansion of West German exports.

They warned that it remained uncertain if, and when an expected general upswing would set in.

The development of West Germany's economy had lost much of its momentum and specially industry's propensity to invest had markedly declined in recent months, the group found.

It was of prime importance for the government to consolidate the budget and to create better preconditions for internal economic growth. AP—Dow Jones.



Greek tankers lying idle at Skaramangas

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Playboy selling hotels

Playboy Enterprises is selling its two resort hotels, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and the Great Gorge, New Jersey, for \$42m (£22m) cash to American Hotels and a Chicago real estate investor, Mr Eugene Golub, the company announced yesterday.

American Hotels is a private Chicago-based concern, owned by Bass Brothers of Texas and runs 43 hotels in the United States.

Mr Derrick J. Daniels, Playboy's president, said the proposed sale was a step towards the group's policy of concentrating on magazine publishing, cable TV and casinos. Playboy is currently negotiating the sale of its London casino and betting shops to Trident for £17m.

Projects for \$5,000m Arab fund

Finance ministers of the Arab world's richest countries have selected the first set of projects to be financed by the \$5,000m (£2,628m) Arab Development Decade Fund in Kuwait.

Mr Abdel-Latif Al-Hamad, Kuwait's Finance Minister, said projects included reconstruction of the Sudan sugar factory, a Pan-Arab satellite network to link all Arab states, and an Arab food security programme.

Other projects included a highway to link Djibouti, Somalia and Mauritania, and a power network, expansion in North Yemen.

Fall in Polish exports to West

Polish exports to the West fell almost 24 per cent over the equivalent of \$1,400m (£735m) in the first 10 months of 1981 from the same 1980 period. Exports to Eastern block countries dropped 9.4 per cent over the same period.

Banks backing Marathon deal

US Steel Corporation disclosed yesterday that its arrangements for the proposed takeover of Marathon Oil include a \$2,400m (£1,261m) credit extended by 23 international banks.

Video exports

Japanese exports of video cassette recorders are expected to more than double this year to seven million from 3.4 million in 1980, Victor Co of Japan (JVC) said in Tokyo.

Extra cash for cocoa

Cocoa producers and consumers yesterday endorsed proposals to provide extra funds for the International Cocoa Organization's buffer stock and to bolster sagging cocoa prices.

But the news came too late to prevent March cocoa from falling another £21 a tonne in London to £1,066.50.

The measures include authorizing the buffer stock manager in consultation with a credit committee to raise \$120m in commercial loans.

Earlier attempts by the buffer stock manager to negotiate bank finance failed because member countries would not guarantee losses. The EEC and the Soviet Union warned last night that they would not accept liability if the buffer stock fund is liquidated.

The buffer stock manager will be allowed to discuss with ICCO members, who export more than 10,000 tonnes of cocoa a year, the purchase of 36,000 tonnes for shipment by July next year. The buffer stock at present holds about 64,000 tonnes.

Fewer Japanese cars for US

Car imports to the United States—particularly from Japan—were 31 per cent lower in September this year than in September 1980, the Commerce Department said in Washington.

Of the 171,499 vehicles imported in September 1981, 112,291 were Japanese, or 23 per cent fewer than in August and 31 per cent fewer than in September 1980.

THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER FOR SALE

ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT STOCK

The Bank of England announce that Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 20th November 1981, and has issued to the Bank, an additional amount of £250 million of each of the Stocks listed below:

- 13 PER CENT TREASURY STOCK 1990
- 12 PER CENT TREASURY STOCK 1995
- 13½ PER CENT TREASURY STOCK 2004-2008

The price paid by the Bank on issue was in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant Stock on 20th November 1981 as certified by the Government Broker.

In each case, the amount issued on 20th November 1981 represents a further tranche of the relevant Stock, ranking in all respects *pari passu* with that Stock and subject to the terms and conditions of the prospectus for that Stock, save as to the particulars therein relating to the amount of the issue, the price payable, the method of issue and the first interest payment. Copies of the prospectuses for the Stocks listed above, dated 9th January 1976, 9th September 1977 and 11th April 1980 respectively, may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Walling Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for each further tranche of stock to be admitted to the Official List for dealing on Monday, 23rd November 1981.

The Stocks are repayable at par, and interest is payable half-yearly, on the dates shown below:

Stock	Redemption date	Interest payment dates
13 per cent Treasury Stock 1990	15th January 1990	15th January 1990
12 per cent Treasury Stock 1995	25th January 1995	25th January 1995
13½ per cent Treasury Stock 2004-2008	26th March 2008, or on or at any time after 26th March 2004 subject to not less than three months' notice	26th March 2004, 26th September 2004, 26th March 2005

Each further tranche of Stock issued on 20th November 1981 will rank for a full six months' interest on the next interest payment date applicable to the relevant Stock.

BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON
20th November 1981

Stock Markets

FT Index 520.2 up 8.5
FT Gilt 64.49 down 0.13
FT All Share Index 307.26 up 4.18
Bargains 17.334

Sterling

\$1.8990 down 125 points
Index 90.5 down 0.1
New York: \$1.8995

Dollar

Index 106.6 up 0.1
DM2.2550 up 138 pts

Gold

\$403.00 up \$4.50
New York: \$398.37

Money

3 mth sterling 1444-1448
3 mth Euro \$ 124-124
6 mth Euro \$ 124-124

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Alroy & Smith	12p to 165p
Auto Prods	5p to 85p
Berkley Exp	25p to 383p
BP	16p to 326p
Burmah	10p to 128p
CEC	17p to 761p
Hinton A.	24p to 244p
KCA Int	14p to 152p
Larson	15p to 479p
Mercantile Hse	15p to 440p
Shell Trans	24p to 400p
Southey, F.S.	13p to 450p
Tunnel B	30p to 490p
Ultramar	15p to 503p
Ward TV	42p to 186p

Falls

Bastell	4p to 361p
Bibby J.	5p to 270p
Bois	5p to 197p
Creditors	5p to 107p
Int Thomson	4p to 266p
Mount Lyall	5p to 225p
Owen Owen	5p to 163p
Pick Wallend	5p to 307p
Philips Lamps	5p to 407p
RMC	4p to 194p
Rio Tinto Zinc	23p to 244p
Royal Worcester	8p to 165p
UC Invest	5p to 616p
Watts Blake	4p to 172p
Westpool Inv	4p to 50p

41pc rise for Logica

The Logica Group's revenues rose 41 per cent over the previous year, according to its annual report for the financial year ending June 30.

Group revenues grew to £26.4m over the year and the staff increased by 103 to 1,000. The group is made up of two operating companies, Logica Holdings and Logica VTS, in which the British Technology Group has an interest.

Logica Holdings, in which the BTG has a 21 per cent stake, increased its revenues by 40 per cent from £15m to £21.7m with pre-tax profits up to £1.7m from £290,000.

According to a statement issued by the company: "In spite of the severe recession operations in the United Kingdom expanded with the revenues increasing by 29 per cent and the sales by 60 per cent."

Logica VTS, in which the BTG has a 43 per cent interest, has reported revenues over £5m returning a pre-tax profit of £360,000.

Washington talks end

United States and European Community officials concluded two days of trade talks in Washington yesterday, without reaching any agreement.

The two sides agreed to meet again in two months. The EEC delegation raised its concerns over the steel and dumping cases announced by the Reagan Administration.

United States basic money supply M1B rose to a seasonally adjusted average of \$435,600m in the week ended November 11 from \$433,300m the previous week.

John Lewis sales up

Sales in the John Lewis partnership department stores last week passed the £10m mark and were 7.8 per cent above the sales in the corresponding week last year.

Sales in Waitrose, the partnership food group, totalled more than £7.5m, two per cent above estimate and 11 per cent upon the similar week last year.

Total sales, at nearly £18m, were 9.4 per cent up on the corresponding week last year and for the 15 weeks to November 14, were ahead by 9.6 per cent.

Science centre for Madrid

The

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Pensions

Pensions rise
wait is over

Next week brings the rises in retirement pensions and other social security benefits for which millions have been waiting since they were announced in March.

The rises overall are around nine per cent, though had the Government not made an adjustment to take account of the amount last year's rise was ahead of inflation, they would have been at least ten per cent.

It is ironic that if the rise in prices, to which increases in social security benefits are linked, is more than 10 per cent since this time last year, there could be an under payment this year.

If this happened, the Government would have to decide whether to pay the extra to make the benefit rise in line with prices. Even if it decided to do so, however, it would be November 1982, before anything could happen.

What, then, have pensioners and others who get benefits to look forward to next week? Pensions for retired people and widows go up by £2.45 a week. The new single retirement pension and widows' pension will be £29.60. A married pensioner will get £47.35, a rise of £3.90.

People receiving invalidity benefit are in line for £2.35 extra a week (up to £28.35). A married couple will get £43.35 — £3.75 more.

The weekly rate of sickness benefit, unemployment benefit and maternity benefit rises from £20.65 to £22.50 single, and from £33.40 to £36.40 (married rate). Supplementary benefits go up by the same amounts, and there are also increases in war pensions and industrial injury benefits.

Some disabled people will gain from a higher rate of increase in mobility allow-

ance. It goes up by 14 per cent from £14.50 to £16.50 a week. Attendance allowance, also paid to the disabled, goes up by £2 to £23.65 (high rate) and by £1.30 to £15.75 (low rate).

Low-income families with children are also in line for a pay rise. The income limit below which family income supplement is paid moves up to £74 a week, with an additional £8 added for each child.

All families with children get a boost from a 50p a week rise in child benefit, up to £5.25. Single parents get an extra 30p on top of the special rate for the first child. This means a single parent will get a total of £8.55 for the first child instead of just £8.25.

Although the amount pensioners can earn before their pensions are cut stays at £52 a week, those getting sickness or invalidity benefit can earn an extra £1.50 a week — £16.50 in all — if their doctor agrees, before their benefit is affected.

Many pensioners become annoyed when they hear about benefits going up, because they do not seem to get those amounts.

The problem is that anyone who gets a pension lower than the normal rate because, for instance, not enough national insurance contributions were paid, only receives a proportion of the increase. Someone with a pension at three-quarters of the full rate would only get three-quarters of the increase.

There is to be a £10 Christmas bonus this year again. It is being paid during the week starting November 30 and will go to the same groups as last year, mainly retirement pensioners, widows and supplementary pensioners.

lan McDonald

Gilts

Gilts glister for
private investors

Having predicted more false for a fairly high income down in the gilt market than they care to admit to, City experts are wary of making firm pronouncements on whether or not it is now time to buy. Private investors on the other hand seem to have made up their minds, deciding that with yield up to 15 per cent or more gilts are an attractive proposition.

National Savings report record sales of gilts bought through the Post Office. About £20m worth of orders flooded into the Blackpool Bonds and Stocks Office in October alone, beating the previous record of £18m reached in September.

In recent years small investors have displayed an uncanny knack of spotting the bottom of the market. The Government Securities Index reached a five-year low point of 60.17 on October 26 — just as investors were swamping the Bonds and Stocks Office with orders to buy. The same thing happened in 1975 when the index fell to its all-time low of 49.18.

The time to buy gilts is when interest rates have peaked and are set for a decline. You then get a high yield, which is fixed until the security matures, and the possibility of capital gain.

"We have seen the market fairly active this week with quite a good rise yesterday," comments Paul Matthews, of stockbrokers, Grieson Grant, yesterday. The key to interest rates is what happens in America and, he believes, "the outlook for United States interest rates over the next month looks like going downwards and there has been a lot of talk about base rates coming down here."

There has been no cut yet in banks' base rates, though the gilt market has probably already taken this "into account. Hence the rise in government stocks this week. Private investors looking

for a fairly high income before interest rates come down need not be so concerned about short-term movements in gilt prices and can afford to buy simply for the yield — as investors through the Post Office have clearly been doing. If short-dated stocks are bought, the capital gain is guaranteed — provided that you are prepared to hold the stock to redemption.

Yields have come down 1 per cent or so over the past couple of weeks, but it is still possible to get income of more than 14 per cent a year, with built-in capital gain attached, if you are prepared to hold the stock to maturity, thus pushing up the redemption yield to more than 15 per cent.

Basic rate taxpayers can still get attractive rates from building societies (11.75 net of basic rate tax at the Bristol and West), the only dilemma being: how long will it last? When interest rates start to fall, building society rates will be quick to follow.

Elderly people and children — those who pay little or no tax — do best with gilts. Yields are roughly in line with other investments offering fixed returns, such as bank deposits, local authority yearling and town hall bonds, but gilts offer the opportunity to invest for the longer term with greater flexibility. High-rate taxpayers should buy low yielding gilts and take their income as capital gains.

It is surprising that elderly people still buy annuities, where the capital used to purchase the annuity is irrecoverable. They could buy gilts, enjoy a high income and still retain control of their money.

There are tax advantages, particularly for higher rate taxpayers, in buying an annuity — some of the return is treated as capital and is therefore not liable to income



National Savings reports record sales of gilts through the Post Office

tax, but the drawback of having lost your capital for good, by far outweighs the advantages.

Probably the best compromise, particularly for higher rate taxpayers, is a combination of a temporary annuity and gilts. Most good stockbrokers run such schemes.

What is the best method of buying gilts? With few exceptions it pays to avoid the gilt funds and unit trusts. In some instances you will be charged 5 per cent as a "front end load" before the professional managers have done a thing.

This is simply throwing money down the drain. It is much better to go to a stockbroker and buy gilts direct — low yielding ones for those paying higher rate tax or high yielding stocks for investors needing income.

For investments of less than £3,000 the cheapest method of dealing is through the Post Office, where application forms GSI(G) — ADP and a prepaid envelope are available. Most stockbrokers would charge a minimum commission of £10 to £15 and the Post Office's commission

rates of £1 minimum up to £250, and 50p for each £125 thereafter, do not approach this level until you buy £3,000 of gilts.

The drawback with the Post Office is that you can never be certain of the price at which you will be buying and selling. You are also limited to those stocks on the National Savings stock register.

If you are buying short-dated gilts through a stockbroker the commission is at the broker's discretion and what he charges will depend

on how badly he wants your business. If in doubt, ask in advance. Stockbrokers prepared to act for and advise private clients include Grieson Grant, Scrimgeour Kemp Gee, Hoare Govett, Fielding Newson Smith and Simon and Coates. Provincial brokers often offer a good job for private clients, too.

Do not be afraid to inquire at the London brokers, even if you have only £4,000 or £5,000 to invest.

Loma Bourke

Redundancy

Not enough advice
from employers?

David Turton and his wife Shirley

David Turton was formally told last Monday that he was being made redundant. Aged 46 and an engineering planner, he has worked with BSC for the last 19 years.

He had been aware for some time that his job was likely to go, and had applied for the redundancy counselling which the BSC has arranged for the thousands that are being laid off. From this he emerged with a fair notion of how to set about claiming unemployment benefit, but absolutely no new idea about what to do with his redundancy money, which is likely to amount to about £25,000, a fairly large sum, but certainly too much to fritter away on living expenses.

The Turtons had considered using the money to buy their council house, as council tenants of long-standing, they would be entitled to "buy at a large discount. Alternatively, they had been mulling over the idea of starting up a small business.

Besides being a justice-of-the-peace, Mr Turton makes his own wine and is chairman of his local wine society and he and his wife thought that there might be an opening locally for a home-brewing business. But apart from that and the obvious options of bank and building society deposits, they really had no clear idea what to do, so the range of alternatives laid before them when they spent a day in the City at the

invitation of BBC's Money Programme came as something of an eye-opener.

The Money Programme took them to see two stockbrokers — Graham Mann of Grieson Grant and Ian Maxwell Scott of Scrimgeour Kemp Gee. It also discussed National Savings in some depth and visited the people who run the Simco Money Fund as well.

For the pros and cons of the options which they considered you will have to watch the Money Programme tomorrow evening. But the real question raised by the exercise is why some rational discussion of these alternatives seems to be available as part of the redundancy counselling.

Granted that the social security system encourages those who are likely to be permanently unemployed to spend rather than save (because supplementary benefits is not available to those who have more than £2,000 of disposable assets, excluding their homes), it surely is as much part of an employer's social duty to provide advice for those who have larger sums and need investment advice, as it is to provide advice on how to use the social security system.

It is probably too much to expect the education authorities to apply themselves to a subject of such relevance to so many people.

Adrienne Gleeson

In brief

Time runs
out for
Bristol
Bond

Last chance to take advantage of the very generous offer from Bristol and West of 11.75 per cent basic rate tax paid on its Bristol Bond seven days' notice account.

Bristol and West launched the account only seven days ago and it is already rapidly approaching its target of £100m. "It is likely that the issue will be closed in the early part of next week," Mr Harry Chadwick, Bristol and West's general manager, said. "No decision has yet been made as to whether the offer is to be extended to the end of the year or not."

The account is effectively an ordinary account paying a full 2 per cent over the Building Societies' Association recommended rate of 7.75 per cent. The differential of one per cent is guaranteed until October 31, 1984. There are no penalties for withdrawal provided you give the requisite seven days' notice, but once your money is withdrawn you cannot get it back.

Chetnam and Gloucester Building Society has gone about things in reverse. It is relinquishing its successful Chetnam Gold account which offers one per cent over the ordinary share rate for deposits over £1,000.

You can open an account with as little as £1 but you will not be entitled to the extra one per cent until the balance is over the £1,000 mark. But you can add to the account at any time.

Loma Bourke

After the axe

How would you cope with paying the mortgage if you were made redundant? Provincial Building Society is offering redundancy cover which provides sufficient funds to make the mortgage repayments for up to two years after the redundancy axe has fallen.

It is, however, only available as an optional extra to the existing personal accident and sickness cover which provides similar benefits if a householder is unable to work through illness.

Sickness and accident cover of £100 a month will cost £13.33 a month and the additional redundancy cover works out at £1.63 a month. Only new borrowers from Provincial are being offered this option.

Loma Bourke

NatWest boost

Larger home improvement loans will be available from National Westminster Bank with the increase in the upper limit from £10,000 to £25,000. The minimum is to remain at £500.

NatWest's home improvement loans scheme was first introduced in 1972 and covers improvements such as home extensions and central heating. Loans of between one and 10 years are available at a flat rate of interest with equal monthly repayments. There is an arrangement fee of 1 per cent charged on one to five year loans, and 1.5 per cent on loans between six and 10 years. The bank may ask for security and/or life assurance cover for the loan. Written quotations can be obtained from NatWest branches.

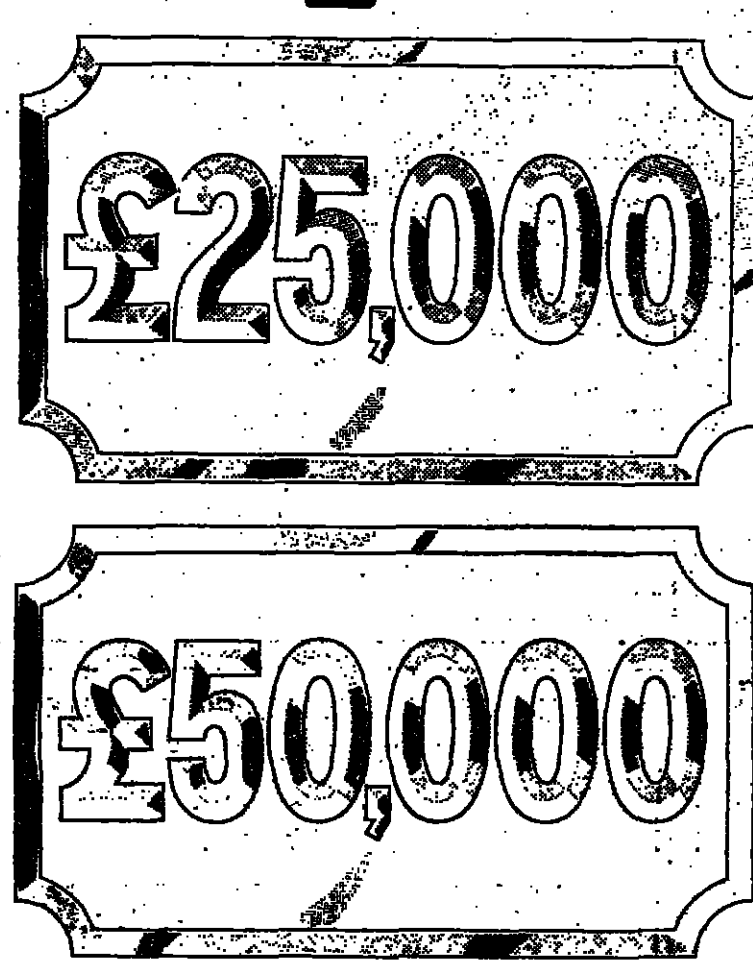
Loma Bourke

Employers' policy

Executives are to be offered yet another incentive — savings-type life policies paid by the employer. Scottish Provident, which has come up with the new marketing gimmick, which has attracted for the employer since he can retain the rights to the proceeds of the policy if the executive leaves.

If the employer agrees, the executive can cash in the policy for a tax-free lump sum at any time, however, the policy's 10th and 20th anniversary. Scottish Provident estimates that for a net yearly cost to an employer of £600 the employee might receive £11,400 after 10 years, slightly better than average projections, though not guaranteed.

Loma Bourke

Two vital sums for
the private investor.

Does your invested capital amount to £25,000 or more? If so, you should seriously consider the advantages of the Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio Service, especially after the alarming volatility recently displayed by the stockmarket.

This unique scheme is specifically designed to allow the private investor with substantial funds to benefit from the investment management resources of the country's largest investing institution, and at the same time to enjoy exceptionally good communications with the managers actually looking after the funds.

This service (VIP for short) has proved itself an outstanding success but now we have added a significant new dimension to the appeal and advantages of this unique scheme.

Do your total assets, including investments and property, exceed £50,000? If so, your basis could be laid in Capital Transfer Tax, which eats into estates valued at more than £50,000 with increasing severity. There are, of course, several exemptions which can help to ease the sting of CTT, if used systematically. However, previous CTT mitigation schemes have normally involved both loss of income and loss of access to capital.

Not surprisingly, many private investors with assets substantially in excess of £50,000 have been unwilling to lose access to their capital in an age of continuing high inflation — in spite of the urgent need to plan ahead for the sake of their heirs.

To resolve this dilemma, the Vanbrugh Inheritance Trust (based on an important relief in the 1981 Finance Act) has been carefully designed to enable an investor to transfer unlimited capital by way of a loan to a Trust which invests in the Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio to generate growth for his beneficiaries.

What makes the trust so special is that, probably for the first time ever, the investor can achieve substantial CTT savings without forfeiting an income from the loan capital used, and, more importantly, without losing access to that capital.

The Vanbrugh Inheritance Trust

Investors can now combine the special advantages of VIP with substantial savings in Capital Transfer Tax uniquely possible through the Vanbrugh Inheritance Trust.

This plan was devised in response to the CTT changes made in the 1981 Finance Act and allows you to:

- * Transfer unlimited capital into the Trust without incurring any legal costs.
- * Remain entitled to the repayment of your loan as a lump sum or as a regular tax-free income for your spouse or yourself.
- * Build up investment profits as an estate, which is exempt from CTT.
- * Remain eligible to share in the investment growth as a beneficiary under the Trust.
- * Continue to use other CTT exemptions, such as the right to gift £3,000 annually.
- * Convert an existing portfolio of stocks and shares into the Trust on very favourable terms and without complications.

Please send in the coupon below for full information on the Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio and Inheritance Trust.

To Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd.,
60/61 Mark Lane, London EC3A 7LA.
Telephone 01-499 4923

Please tell me all about: ☐ The Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio ☐ The Vanbrugh Inheritance Trust

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TITLE _____

TEL. NO. _____

DATE _____

1/21/81

The Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio

Service, communication and personal attention are the hallmarks of the Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio, which was specifically designed to meet the needs of investors with £25,000 or more. Investors who, in recent years and indeed weeks, have been increasingly disturbed by the volatile performance of the stockmarket, and who are nowadays hard-hit by the escalating costs of stockbroking advice and transactions.

Through the VIP scheme the investor with £25,000 or more can enjoy the very highest standards of professional management, provided by the investment department of the Prudential Group, Britain's largest investing institution.

At the same time, VIP investors are kept in close touch with their investment managers' thoughts and actions, the state of the funds where their money is invested and overall prospects in each of the key investment markets.

A checklist of VIP advantages:

- * Economic events and investment prospects are reviewed in a quarterly VIP Investment Bulletin.
- * Annual Fund Reports are issued on all VIP Funds.
- * Special Financial Bulletins are prepared to brief VIP investors on such matters as taxation changes.
- * Statements and valuations are immediately available on request.
- * Investments are free from basic rate and Capital Gains taxes which are borne by the Funds.
- * A regular income may be taken completely free of immediate taxation (within certain limits).
- * Annual VIP Investment Conferences give investors a chance to meet the investment directors responsible for their funds, hear their opinions on current economic events and discuss their own portfolios.

The investment platform of VIP

The Vanbrugh Investment Portfolio is based on a range of funds designed to provide the maximum protection against inflation and excessive investment volatility.

The Vanbrugh Equity Fund has consistently outperformed the Cost of Living Index since it was launched 7 years ago. The Vanbrugh Property Fund has a stable growth pattern based on the inherent counter-inflationary strength of bricks and mortar and the Prudential's experience as the world's largest property owner in the country (after the Government).

The Vanbrugh International Fund is a portfolio of world-wide securities designed to achieve a global balance of risk and opportunity, as a hedge against the vagaries of UK politics and economics.

The Vanbrugh Fixed Interest Fund is an actively managed portfolio of gilt-edged stocks and deposits in the short term money market designed to extend the private investor's ability to obtain substantially better returns than from directly held gilt-edged or other fixed interest investments.

The Vanbrugh Cash Fund provides a haven for investors during periods when all investment markets look unattractive.

Investors may either spread their capital between these funds, and switch between them at will according to their view of current prospects, or invest in the Vanbrugh Managed Fund, entrusting the Vanbrugh investment managers with responsibility for this allocation.

Investors may make one switch between funds free of charge every year and any subsequent switches are charged at only 1%, making every favourable comparison with the 0% or more which they and self transactions incur on the stock exchange.

Boosting your income through VIP

The VIP service benefits from the favourable tax treatment enjoyed by life assurance companies. This means that the investment income earned by the funds is not taxed at the individual's highest tax rate (up to 75%) but at the rate of 30% and 37½% paid by insurance companies.

Secondly, investors can take a regular income which, within certain limits, is completely free of immediate tax regardless of other investment income. This can produce a really worthwhile increase in the yield from a given capital sum.



To Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd.,
60/61 Mark Lane, London EC3A 7LA.
Telephone 01-499 4923

A member of the Prudential Group

Your money market best buys

Banks
Current account — no interest
Deposit accounts — 11.75 per cent, seven days' notice required for withdrawal. For sums of £10,000 or more, fixed for the term: Fixed-term deposits — 1 month, 14½ per cent; 3 months, 14½ per cent; 6 months, 14½ per cent.

Money Funds
Simco 7-day fund, 14.36 per cent; UDT Average Rate Deposit Fund, 15 per cent; Tyndall 7-day fund, 15 per cent; Simco dollar fund, 11.87 per cent; interest paid without deduction of tax. Further details from Simco (01-235 0239), Tyndall (01-2272 5224) or UDT (01-235 0239).

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — interest 5 per cent; First £20 of interest tax-free; Investment Accounts — 14.5 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £20,000.

National Savings Index-Linked Certificates
Maximum investment £5,000, return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index; 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in December 1976, £189.75 including 4 per cent bonus.

Local Authority Yearling Bonds
12-month fixed rate investments, interest 14½ per cent net of basic rate tax (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local Authority Town Hall Bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source, reclaimable by non-taxpayers), Best offers: 1 year, Kingston-upon-Hull 13½ per cent; 2 years, Chorley 14½ per cent; 3 years, Knowlsey 14½ per cent; 5 years, Trafford 14½ per cent; 8-10 years, Wycombe 14½ per cent.

Further details: available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-82 7855, after 3 pm). See also on Fixed rate 24908.

Finance for Industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 13½ per cent; 5 years, 13½ per cent; 8 years, 13½ per cent; 10 years, 14½ per cent. Further information from 31 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-232 7822).

Finance House Deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deduction of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 1 month, 14½ per cent; 3 months, 14½ per cent; 6 months, 14½ per cent; 12 months, 14½ per cent.

Foreign Currency Deposits
Interest paid without deduction of tax.

US dollar 10 p.c. 10½ p.c.
French 2½ p.c. 2½ p.c.
D. Mark 7½ p.c. 7½ p.c.
Swiss Franc 11½ p.c. 11½ p.c.
Swiss Franc 2 p.c. 2½ p.c.

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

Edited by LORNA BOURKE

Sale rooms

It's time to cash in on China's Imperial porcelain past

With the simplest of Chinese celadon dishes commanding £10,000-plus, and more intricately decorated pieces, like the vase shown right, selling for the best part of £100,000, fine Chinese porcelain is not a market for those who are short on enthusiasm or cash.

It was not always so. Prices have rocketed over the past 15 years because of a growth in interest, first of all from the Japanese, and more recently from the increasingly wealthy "offshore" Chinese of Hongkong, Singapore, and the rest of the Pacific basin. As recently as 1971 it was possible to spend a mere £520 on an iron red and enamel decorated bowl, which sold in Hongkong earlier this year for almost seven times as much.

The pieces that command the high prices these days are "imperial ware", called because it was made for the Imperial household. Vast



amounts of Imperial ware were looted from China in the aftermath of the Boxer rebellion, and during the disturbances of the 1930s, and

what has not already found its way into museum collections is quite likely to turn up in attics or conservatories (the vase above had been stored in a garage in Los Angeles). Do not, however, assume that anything and everything in the way of Chinese porcelain is *pro facto* worth a fortune. Much of the export ware made for the European market in the 18th and 19th centuries, the *famille rose* and *famille verte* pieces, so dear to lovers of Chinoiserie, is now worth very little. In fact, pieces that might have sold for more than £30,000 in the early 1980s might now be worth only a few thousand pounds.

On the counter-cyclical argument, of course, that could make such pieces a good investment. Sotheyby, bass some in a sale coming up in Hongkong on November 24 and 26 and another on December 15 in London.

Adrienne Gleeson

Buyer's premium

Galleries protected

From Mr Christopher Hawkins

Sir: The prominence of the photograph of the Phillips auctioneer which headed last week's article "Small Buyers Left Out in the Cold" could, by inference, suggest Phillips' agreement with auctioneers taken by Sotheby's and Christie's. The recent averted court case did not involve Phillips, who resisted adopting the premium for some three years after it was introduced by the other two houses. When it was introduced by us we specifically excluded the museums and public galleries from the charge.

You state that the costs and terms of buying and selling are fixed without reference to buyers and sellers... this is not completely accurate as many sellers can negotiate the commission on more valuable items.

It is important the auctioneers, buyers and sellers who work in harmony as all are integral parts of the art market.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER HAWKINS, Managing Director, Phillips, New Bond Street, London W1.

Taxation

The taxman creeps up on business scholarships

Last week's Court of Appeal decision on the taxability of discretionary grants paid to children of ICI employees must have come as a blow to many higher paid parents in Britain's top companies. Similar schemes are funded by companies such as Shell, British Petroleum and B&W Corporation.

Denning dissenting from the view of his fellow judges that the scholarships should be taxed as part of the parent's income.

Scholarship trusts have been used by big companies for some years to assist employee's children, who undergo higher education. The awards are discretionary, that is they are awarded on merit and not as a matter of course, and in ICI's case are between £200 and £500. ICI's fund was set up in 1977 and its awards were accepted initially by the Inland Revenue as exempt from tax because of the operation of section 375 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. This exempts scholarship income from income tax.

But in 1978, the Revenue issued a warning that as a result of legal advice received it would challenge the tax exemption under the terms of section 61 of the Finance Act 1976. This section, which set out to crack-down on fringe benefits, said any benefit received by the employee or his family by reason of his employment would be taxable as a fringe benefit.

Tax on fringe benefits only applies where the person receiving the benefit is classified as a higher-paid employee. The qualifying level of pay for this classification has been static at £8,500 since 1978-79, so increasing numbers of hitherto "lower-paid" employees have found their "perks" becoming subject to tax.

The Lords will be asked to decide whether the scholarship was income in the hands of the student and therefore, under the 1970 act, not subject to tax, or a taxable benefit which arose purely as a result of the father's employment, in which case, under the 1976 act, it should be taxed.

The Revenue has said it would not tax a scholarship where the funds were available to a wider circle of students. So for example a scholarship fund set-up for, say, the impoverished children of Belgravia might get approval for the Revenue as a "fortuitous" scheme, but a fund subject to a more restricted availability, as in ICI's case, would not.

Drew Johnston

FIRST Offer of Units



The new Gartmore Australian Trust. A resource-rich investment opportunity.

If natural resources are the key to a nation's future prosperity, no country in the world offers such outstanding potential for growth as Australia. It is a major exporter of agricultural products, has huge mineral reserves - including the world's richest reserves of uranium - and, more recently, there have been significant discoveries of coal, gas and oil.

Energy Rich

The mineral boom of the early 1970's has now been complemented by an energy boom and large amounts of foreign investment are being attracted into the country to finance development.

Growth Potential

Australian inflation is now in single figures, and growth in the Gross National Product for 1980/81 is forecast at 4.7% - the highest level for nine years. Unemployment has begun to fall and is currently around 5.4%, compared with 12.2% in the UK. The rise in the industrial power of countries bordering the Pacific, in particular Japan, has given Australia major outlets for its raw materials, energy resources and agricultural products. This is why Gartmore are now offering investors a new unit trust investing exclusively in Australia.

A Balanced Portfolio

The main emphasis of Gartmore Australian Trust will be on sectors which should benefit from Australia's strength in natural resources - such as established energy and mining stocks, selected engineering companies, exploration stocks, banks and other financial institutions, and property companies.

A Good Time to Invest

As an exporter of raw materials, Australia has been particularly affected by the world trade recession. This, combined with a continuing period of high international interest rates, has resulted in an unsettled stock market. We believe, however, that the fundamentals of the Australian economy remain extremely sound. As world trade recovers, the major industrial nations will increase their demand for raw materials, and Australia is in a prime position to supply these requirements. We consider that this should result in a significant improvement in share values. We believe, therefore, that now could be a good time to invest in Australia.

The Aim is Growth

The aim of the Trust is above-average capital growth and the income is therefore likely to be modest. The estimated gross-commencing yield is 1% p.a.

The Value of Professional Management

The team of investment professionals at Gartmore have proved over the years that they can achieve excellent results with overseas shares. In 1980, Gartmore were nominated Unit Trust Managers of the Year by three independent publications - the Sunday Telegraph, Observer and Money Management. During 1980, Gartmore's 10 trusts (including 5 investing overseas) rose by an average of 53.9%.

Invest before 11th December. You can invest from £200 upwards. Units are on offer at a fixed price of 25p until 11th December, 1981. Just complete and post the coupon below, ensuring that it reaches us before the closing date.

Gartmore Australian Trust is an investment which offers the opportunity of higher-than-average rewards from shares that are potentially volatile. Ideally you should view such an investment as part of your overall portfolio.

Remember the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

You can obtain information on other Gartmore unit trusts by ticking the appropriate box in the coupon; details are now also available on Prestel, page 350623.

Further Information

Applications will be acknowledged, and certificates will be forwarded within six weeks. You can sell your units back to us at not less than the minimum bid price on any dealing day. Prices and yields are quoted on leading national newspapers. You will receive a cheque within seven working days of the Managers receiving your remittance certificate. The Trust is constituted and administered by a Trust Deed dated 23rd October, 1981. Annual distributions are paid, after deduction of income tax at the basic rate, on 15th June. Income tax can be reclaimed from the Inland Revenue if you are entitled to do so. A management charge of 5% is included in the price of the units. Out of this, the Managers will pay commission to authorised agents - rates are available on request. There is an annual charge of 7% (plus VAT) of the value of the fund which is deducted from gross income, and which is already allowed for in the estimated gross yield. The Trust Deed permits a maximum annual charge of 1% (plus VAT). The Trust is a Medium Bank Trust Company Limited. The Managers of the Trust are Gartmore Fund Managers Limited, 25 St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP. Tel: 01-623 6114. (Member of the Unit Trust Association). This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Application for Units in Gartmore Australian Trust To: Gartmore Fund Managers Ltd., 25 St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP. Telephone: 01-623 6114. (Telex: No. 107733. Regd address in above)

I/We should like to invest (minimum £200) £

in Gartmore Australian Trust at the initial offer price of 25p per unit.

I/We enclose a remittance, payable to Gartmore Fund Managers Ltd. Tick box:

- ☐ For automatic re-investment of net income.
- ☐ For details of the complete Gartmore unit trust range.
- ☐ For details of Gartmore insurance-linked plans.

Surname (Mr, Mrs, Miss)

First Name(s) in full

Address

Signature(s)

(Note: applicants must all sign and attach recent and address separately.)

T1881/1

GARTMORE

£1,000,000,000 under Group Management

GT Buys Japan

While convinced of the long term growth prospects for the Japanese economy, for some time G.T. has followed a relatively cautious attitude towards Japanese investment in view of the weakness of the Yen. This period of weakness is now ending and there appears to be scope for further strengthening.

The major factor in the weakness was the internationally low level of Japanese interest rates. However, all the other factors which normally determine a currency's value have been strongly in favour of the Yen. Inflation is very low by international standards - consumer prices are up only 4% year on year - and Japan is running a substantial current account surplus, having recently declared a record trade surplus.

Interest rates alone will not determine currency levels indefinitely and G.T. believes that, sooner rather than later, the other factors will reassert themselves. As that happens and the Yen appreciates, Japanese interest rates should fall, and activity in the economy should gradually shift from the export sector to the domestic centres. This could have a significant impact on the Japanese stock market which has been partly depressed by the low level of home demand.

Japan remains the most consistently successful industrialised economy thanks to its unique combination of productive efficiency and sound monetary policy. This has been reflected in an outstanding long-term stock market performance.

G.T.'s office in Hong Kong was established in January 1971. Six experienced Fund Managers, resident in Hong Kong, keep careful watch over the Japanese stock market and gain advantage from being positioned in the most important international financial centre in the Far East. What the papers say

Daily Telegraph: "GT has a formidable reputation as investment managers in the Far East markets..."

The Observer: "GT, which runs a highly successful Japanese fund..."

Daily Express: "GT, one of the most successful unit trust groups in the country..."

The Observer: "GT, a unit trust group rightly entrenched in the public mind as a leader in investment in this area..."

Sunday Telegraph: "GT Group, one of the leading unit trust staples in recent years..."

GT Unit Trusts	1 Year	2 Years	4 Years	6 Years
Japan and General Fund	+51.9	+59.6	+148.8	+283.1
Capital Fund	-5.8	+26.8	+79.3	+183.9
Far East and General Fund	+46.9	+119.9		
US and General Fund	+27.1	+51.7	+78.1	+88.4
International Fund	+19.2	+59.5	+138.8	
Income Fund	+2.3	+22.5	+48.5	+185.5
World Bond Fund	+14.0			
Pension Exempt Fund	+13.4	+56.1	+157.5	
Technology and Growth Fund				Launched April 1981
FT All Share Index	-0.1	+19.2	+47.4	+144.1
FT Industrial Ord Index	+3.4	+11.5	+31.1	+85.8
New York SE Index	+10.9	+17.4	+33.7	+86.8

Percentage gain over various periods to 1st October 1981 (source: Planned Savings). *Figures shown to 3 decimal places.

Facts about GT Unit Managers Part of the GT Management Group, which manages over £800 million, GT Unit Managers looks after over £55 million of unit trust funds and has an outstanding investment record.

GT Unit Trusts consistently rank among the top performers and, in the past three years, GT has twice achieved the distinction of managing the best performing Unit Trust in the Country.

How to invest

The aim of the Fund is long-term capital growth by investment in the Japanese stock market where yields are traditionally low. This is reflected in the yield on the units. Unit trusts are a long-term investment. They are not suitable for money which may be needed at short notice. The price of units, and the income from them, may go down as well as up.

General Information

Trustee: Lloyds Bank Limited, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS. The Trust is authorised by the Department of Trade and qualifies as a "wider range" investment under the Trustee Investment Act, 1961. The offer price of units on 17th November 1981 was 136.8p ex-dividend, and estimated gross yield 0.7%. Applications will be acknowledged and certificates will be issued within six weeks. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price. An annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the capital value of the Fund is deducted from the gross income of the Fund to defray management expenses. Subject to this annual charge, and net of tax, income is allocated to unitholders each 21st May and 21st November. (First payment in response to this advertisement will be May 1982.) Units may be sold back at any time at the bid price ruling on receipt of your renounced certificate and payment will normally be made in seven days. Prices of units and yields are quoted in the National Press and following an initial purchase, they may be bought in multiples of ten. Commission of 1% is paid to recognised agents out of the initial charge. The Managers are G.T. Unit Managers Ltd, 16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2. Registered in London No. 903827.

Members of the Unit Trust Association. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

G.T. JAPAN & GENERAL FUND

G.T. Unit Managers Ltd

Park House, 16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DU

Tel: 01-628 8131

(We wish to invest the sum of £ (minimum £250) in Units of G.T. JAPAN & GENERAL FUND at the price ruling on the day you receive this application.

(We enclose a cheque payable to G.T. Unit Managers Ltd. An account cannot be opened in the name of a minor but applications may be made by an adult and the account designated, i.e. 'A', 'B' or with the minor's initials.

Signature

(In the case of joint applications all must sign and provide names and addresses on a separate sheet.)

Full Christian Name

Block Letters (Please state Mr., Mrs., Miss or Title)

Surname

Address

12/11

THE GT GROUP

Wishes can come true with Abbey National Christmas Gift Cheques.



The magic of a Christmas Gift Cheque is that it's designed to grow bigger once it's invested. So it can help you make all sorts of wishes - even the big ones - come true for all sorts of people.

It's handy for you, because you don't even have to know what they're really wishing for. It could be a new car or a bike or that special holiday. The person who gets the Gift Cheque chooses the gift. All you have to do is choose the card from the wide range available!

A Gift Cheque gives a new saver a great start, or helps someone who's saving already. It could simply be invested in future security - for many people the most important wish of all.

A Gift Cheque can be for any sum from as little as £1 to £20,000. The person who receives it pays it into any Abbey National office to open

the savings account of their choice. Provided the cheque is paid in within a month, interest will be backdated to the day after you bought it.

Be a genie-us. Come on in and help a few wishes come true this Christmas.

ABBEY NATIONAL GIFT CHEQUES

ABBEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY, 27 BAKER STREET, LONDON W1M 2AA.

Get the Abbey Habit

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, Dec 4. § Contango Day, Dec 7. Settlement Day, Dec 14.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

Edited by Peter Dear

1.30 Sport on 2: Rugby Union, Football, Racing, Cricket, & 2.00 Country Style

Radio 1
5.00am As Radio 2. 7.00 Playground, 8.00 Tony Blackburn, 10.00 Peter Powell, 12.00 My Top 12, 1.00 Adrian Justic, † 2.00 A King in New York, † 2.05 Paul Gambaccini, † 4.00 Waters' Weekly, † 5.00 Rock On, † 6.30 In Concert, † 7.30 Close.

VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00am With Radio 2, 1.00pm With Radio 1, 7.30-5.00 With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE
BBC World Service can be received in

Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3
a MF 720kHz:417m. LBC MF

and VHF 94.9 MHz World Service

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.10am Joe
9.0, 9.35 A Longish Ditham, 10.00
10.30 Closest, 10.40, 10.55, 11.00
Hawell Five-O, 12.10am Reflections,
12.15 Closeown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.00 am
Cartoon, 9.10 Moby Dick, 9.40-10.30
Thunderbirds, 12.13 pm-12.15 News,
12.40 News, 1.10pm The Game,
7.40-8.40 Streets of San Francisco,
11.10 Monte Carlo Show; Clio Laine,
12.10 Mrs Uxbridge, 12.30 am Theme's
Company, 12.35 Closeown.

CHANNEL

As London except: Starts 12.15 pm
World of Sport, 1.45-1.50 Pyramid
Game, 7.40-8.40 Incredible Hulk, 11.10
Police Surgeon, 11.35 Closeown.

2.00 Benny Green.† 3.03 Two's Best.†
4.00 Sing Something Simple.† 4.31
Sing Squad.† 5.00 Comedy Classics:

Radio 1

7.00 Tony Blackburn. 10.00 Noel
Edmonds. 1.00pm Jimmy Savile. 3.00
Studio B15 with Adrian Lowe. Ring 01-
222-1111. 5.00 Top 40. 7.00 News.
8.00er. 9.00 Sound of Jazz. 10.00
Close.

World service

10.00 Newsweek, 7.00 World News, 7.00 Correspondent Britain, 7.15 From our own Correspondent, 7.45 London (if it is news), 7.55 The Playhouse, 9.00 World News, 9.09 News of the British Isles, 9.59 News of the World, 10.00 Sunday News, 10.10 The World, 10.30 Sunday News, 11.00 World News, 11.09 News about the World, 11.15 News of the World, 11.25 The World, 11.30 Baker's Half-Dinner, 1.00 World News, 1.09 News of the World, 1.15 News of the World, 1.30 Classic British Series, 1.45 The Send news Request Show, 2.30 Frank Marry, 2.45 News of the World, 2.55 News of the World, 3.00 World News, 3.09 News of the World, 3.15 From our Correspondent, 3.45 News of the World, 3.55 The Playhouse, 4.00 World News, 4.09 Correspondent Britain, 4.15 From our Correspondent, 4.45 News of the World, 4.50 World News, 4.59 News of the World, 5.09 News of the World, 5.15 From our Correspondent, 5.45 News of the World, 5.55 The Playhouse, 6.00 World News, 6.09 News of the World, 6.15 From our Correspondent, 6.45 News of the World, 6.55 The Playhouse, 7.00 World News, 7.09 News of the World, 7.15 From our Correspondent, 7.45 News of the World, 7.55 The Playhouse, 8.00 World News, 8.09 News of the World, 8.15 From our Correspondent, 8.45 News of the World, 8.55 The Playhouse, 9.00 World News, 9.09 News of the World, 9.15 From our Correspondent, 9.45 News of the World, 9.55 The Playhouse, 10.00 World News, 10.09 News of the World, 10.15 From our Correspondent, 10.45 News of the World, 10.55 The Playhouse, 11.00 World News, 11.09 News of the World, 11.15 From our Correspondent, 11.45 News of the World, 11.55 The Playhouse, 12.00 News about Britain, 12.15 Radio

BORDER

HTV WEST
as London except: Starts 9.00am-

2.30 Mark and Mandy. 2.30-3.00 Film:
 Spanish Mail (Maureen O'Hara, Paul
 Douglas). 3.00-3.30 The Captain Is
 Couple-crushed by the Spanish
 governor, soon joins the buccaners.
 3.35-6.40 News. 6.45-8.45 Jim
 Choate. 8.50-11.30 Last of Summer.
 12.30-3.00 Newsday.

HTV CYMRU/SALES
 HTV West except: Starts 2.00pm
 2.00-3.00 Wozzy and Wozzy's.
 3.00-4.00 HTV West except: Starts 2.00pm

ATV
 London except: Starts 9.00 am
 9.00-10.00 London except: Starts 9.00 No Need to
 Report. 11.30-12.00 Gardening Today. 12.00-1.00
 pm News-Challenge. 1.30
 pm News-Challenge. 2.00-3.00 News-Challenge.
 3.00-3.30 Film: Out of Control. 3.30-4.00
 Emmerson, Walter Matthau, Ray-Channing
 in Ice Man. 7.15-7.30 The Stroke. 8.45-9.45
 Magnum. 11.30-1.30 Strumpet
 lady. 12.30 am Newsday.

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains.

[illegible]